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TRADE MISSION LEADERS RETURN FROM PRC, HAIL AGREEMENT

OW171255Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 17 Feb (KYODO)--A leader of a Japanese trade mission said upon his return from China Friday [17 February] the long-term trade agreement signed in Peking Thursday would likely be extended beyond its 8-year term to expire in 1985. This prospect was offered by Yoshihiro Inayama, chairman of Nippon Steel Corp who headed the mission, at an airport press conference.

Toshiwo Doko, president of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), who accompanied Inayama, said the new trade agreement basically represents the Japanese business community's wish to extend economic cooperation to China for its national modernization drive. At the same time, it was part of the efforts to diversify Japan's export markets, Doko said. It will never bring any ill effect on Japan's trade or economic relations with other countries, including the Soviet Union, he added.

Inayama said the Chinese, intent on achieving its ambitious national modernization program centering on extensive industrial redevelopment, had been found to be planning to concentrate its planned 10 billion dollar imports from Japan on the first 4 years of the pact. The Chinese are expected to buy their most wanted Japanese plant, machinery and other industrial construction equipment and materials during the 4 years, he said. He said he did expect Chinese purchasing from Japan to run out during the 8-year period of the 20 billion dollar the agreement will likely be extended even after its term expires, he said. [as received]

Both Inayama and Doko expressed jubilation over realization of the long-range trade pact envisioned by Japanese businessmen since the 1972 normalization of Tokyo-Peking diplomatic relations. They called for early conclusion of the long-proposed Japan-China peace treaty, expressing the belief that without such political backup, the trade pact would "have the form but not the spirit." They expected a rush of export deals by Japanese steelmakers and plant and machinery makers with Peking to meet the expected Chinese demand for hardware and software for the country's industrialization. The private trade committee sponsoring the pact's conclusion, however, will not interfere with such deals because it believes in freedom of competition, they said. But they expressed the hope for a certain degree of moderation instead of unlimited rivalry.

Inayama added that he had successfully proposed to chairman Wang Yao-ting of the China Council for Promotion of International Trade at Peking his idea that some kind of consultation machinery, composed of Japanese and industrial experts and their Chinese counterparts, be created for promotion of exchange of scientific information on energy and other economic matters. Inayama expected his idea to be realized before long because, he said, Wang had promised a positive study of his suggestion.

STEEL DELEGATION LEAVES FOR PRC FOR CONSULTATIONS, STUDY

OW201309Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 20 Feb (KYODO)--A group of experts from the steel industry left for Peking Monday to see how best Japan can help modernize Chinese steel mills.

The 21-man team, led by Nippon Steel Corporation Director Makoto Ogaki, will hold talks with officials of the Chinese Metallurgical Industry Ministry and National Technical Import Corporation.

Under the private trade agreement signed recently between Tokyo and Peking, the Japanese industry agreed to cooperate in improving Anshan, Fenchu, Shihchingshan and other steel plants.

While in China for about 3 weeks, the group will visit the steelworks to obtain firsthand information.

OIL IMPORTS FROM PRC PLANNED TO 'DRASTICALLY INCREASE'

OW210810Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0748 GMT 21 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 21 Feb (KYODO)--Japan is planning to drastically increase the import volume of Chinese crude oil in the future without being confined by the Japan-China long-term private trade agreement which called upon this country to import 47.1 million tons of crude during the first 5 years (1978-1982) of the 8-year arrangement. This was revealed by government sources Monday.

They noted that the private agreement, signed in Peking last Thursday, calls for both countries to review Japan's crude import volume in the third year of the agreement. At that time, they said there is need for Japan to set up a structure in which it will be able to import a total of 330 million tons of Chinese crude over a 10-year period from 1981. Through this, the government sources said Japan will be able to increase its exports to China drastically to between \$40 billion and \$50 billion from the \$10 billion envisaged in the agreement during the 8 years from 1978 to 1985.

The remarks made by the government sources are being interpreted as indicating the government's wish to realize early settlement of problems related to plant exports to China and other issues concerned with deferred payments, the biggest issues in the way of expanding Sino-Japanese trade. They also are regarded as indicating Japan's aim to diversify its sources of crude supply.

MITI OFFICIAL VIEWS NO 'STUMBLING BLOCKS' TO PRC TRADE

OW181117Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0912 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 18 Feb (KYODO)--A high-ranking official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry expressed optimism Friday that the Coordinating Committee for Export to Communist Areas (Cocom) would not put major stumbling blocks in the way of Japan-China trade. Toshihiko Yano, director of MITI's International Trade Policy Bureau, voiced the view in connection with the question of whether or not Japan's export of steelworks to China would conflict with the Cocom list of contraband goods.

Yano, who went to China with the long-term trade mission headed by Yoshihiro Inayama, said he was confident that Japan would be able to obtain the understanding of Cocom member countries for her export of steel plants to China.

Yano told a press conference that the first trade talks under the recently signed Japan-China long-term trade agreement would come around summer and that steel plants would be discussed first. He added that China would maintain its self-supporting principle and therefore not seek credit at the trade talks. Methods of account settlement, such as deferred payment, would be a major topic, he added.

SONODA ASKS PRC OFFICIAL TO HELP EXPEDITE TREATY TALKS

OW180108Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 18 Feb (KYODO)--Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda sent a personal message to Liao Cheng-chih, president of the China-Japan Friendship Association, through Yoshihiro Inayama, who signed a long-term Japan-China trade agreement in Peking Thursday, it was learned Friday. Foreign Ministry authorities described the contents of the message as greetings.

But sources said Sonoda asked in the letter for Liao's assistance in getting the suspended negotiations for a bilateral peace and friendship treaty reopened as soon as possible. The sources said Inayama, who returned here Friday from Peking, delivered Sonoda's message to Liao Wednesday.

SONODA EXPLAINS DIPLOMATIC ACTION ON PRC TREATY PROSPECTS

OW191057Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0003 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Niitsu, Niigata Pref., 19 Feb (KYODO)--Japanese Ambassador to Peking Shoji Sato will meet Chinese officials "once or twice more" to lay the ground for resumption of negotiations on a bilateral peace and friendship treaty, Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda said here Sunday. Sonoda said Sato would have contacts with Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Han Nien-lung and Liao Cheng-chih, president of the China-Japan Friendship Association, but did not say how soon. The foreign minister, here for a mayoral election campaign, told the press the time was ripe for resumption of the treaty negotiations after the meeting between Sato and Han in Peking last Tuesday. "This (the meeting) did not come about all of a sudden. Preparations for it had been made secretly since late last year," Sonoda said.

Sonoda also told newsmen he would visit Peking at the earliest possible opportunity after resumption of contacts between Sato and Han. That would not be as late as May, he added. The foreign minister said that whether Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda would go to Peking depended on the progress at future talks between the governments of both countries. Sonoda said it was still undecided whether the peace treaty would be signed in Tokyo or Peking.

ENVOY SATO TO DISCUSS 'ANTIHEGEMONY' WITH HAN NIEN-LUNG

OW191107Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0737 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Feb (KYODO)--Shoji Sato, Japanese ambassador in Peking, will meet Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Han Nien-lung possible next week to discuss the crucial "antihegemony" issue toward conclusion of a peace and friendship treaty with China, a top government official said Saturday. He said Sato and Han agreed when they met in Peking Tuesday that the "antihegemony" issue was the last remaining obstacle standing in the way, the official said. They agreed at that time to exchange views on this issue in their next meeting expected to take place next week, he said.

PRO-PEKING DIET GROUP URGES FUKUDA TO SIGN AMITY TREATY

OW200810Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0757 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 20 Feb (KYODO)--A pro-Peking group within the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party urged Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda Monday to conclude the long-pending Japan-China peace and friendship treaty as soon as possible. The request was made when LDP Dietmen including Seigo Hamano, chairman of the Dietmen's League for Japan-China Friendship, and former Foreign Minister Toshio Kimura, leader of the LDP's Afro-Asian study group, visited Fukuda's official residence.

The request followed last week's move toward resumption of full-fledged negotiations on the pact when Japanese Ambassador Shoji Sato and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Han Nien-lung discussed the matter in Peking. During the 30-minute meeting with the pro-Peking Dietmen, Fukuda said the government would sign the treaty without delay after full-fledged negotiations resume soon.

Hamano told reporters his impression was that the treaty would be concluded within several months.

Fukuda later exchanged views on the projected treaty with LDP Secretary General Masayoshi Hoiri. The prime minister briefed Ohira on the informal talks between Japan and China, while Ohira explained ways to obtain the LDP's consent to resuming talks with China.

FUKUDA ORDERS ENVOY TO PREPARE FOR TREATY TALKS WITH PRC

OW201017Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 20 Feb (KYODO)--Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda said Monday that he had ordered Japanese Ambassador to China Shoji Sato to prepare for early resumption of talks with China for conclusion of a peace and friendship treaty. Speaking at a press conference, Fukuda said he had issued the order last Saturday after consulting Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda. Fukuda's instruction was believed to have come after a close study of the results of the first meeting between Sato and Vice Foreign Minister Han Nien-lung held in Peking last Tuesday.

SONODA COMMENTS ON PRC TREATY, SOVIET SALMON BAN PROPOSAL

OW210627Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0553 GMT 21 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 21 Feb (KYODO)--Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda said Tuesday he wanted to make an early trip to Peking to take direct charge of the Japan-China talks on a peace and friendship treaty. Responding to a question from a Socialist before the House of Councillors Foreign Affairs Committee, Sonoda said he felt it would be meaningless for him to visit Peking after the negotiations are settled. Therefore, he said, it was his desire to attend the talks at an early stage. The timing of a Sonoda visit to Peking has not yet been decided nor has he received any instructions from the prime minister on the matter, he explained.

Sonoda's statement indicated that Japan was making preparations to reopen treaty negotiations on the assumption that he would be going to China to negotiate the treaty when the talks between Japanese Ambassador to Peking Shoji Sato and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Han Nien-lung arrive at a crucial point.

Concerning the Soviet Union's proposal last Thursday for a total ban on salmon and sea trout fishing by Japan and the Soviet Union in northern waters, Sonoda expressed his belief that the Soviet proposal was not a reprisal against the Japan-China treaty talks. He said he based his belief on the following facts: (1) at last summer's UN conference on the law of the sea Moscow proposed a total suspension of salmon and sea trout fishing on the high seas; (2) the world is increasingly recognizing the "parent stream" principle (claiming jurisdiction over salmon spawned in one's territory); and (3) the Soviet Union was forced to insist on the "parent stream" principle because its fishermen have been shut out from waters off northern Europe.

The stiff Soviet attitude on salmon fishing has been expected all along, the foreign minister said, but the Japanese delegation to the current fishery talks in Moscow is opposing the proposal.

DELEGATION IN MOSCOW CLASHES WITH SOVIETS OVER SALMON BAN

OW180102Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0011 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, 17 Feb (KYODO)--Japan told the Soviet Union Friday that it absolutely cannot accept the Soviet proposal for a "total restraint" on salmon fishing operations on the high seas. The Japanese delegation to the current negotiations for conclusion of a bilateral fishery cooperation agreement made known Japan's stand at a plenary session held for some two hours Friday afternoon. The Soviet proposal was made Thursday.

Japanese delegation sources said the Japanese side told the Soviet Union that salmon resources in the northern waters were not in a state of depletion. The Soviet delegates, on their part, claimed that it was most suitable for anadromous fish, such as salmon, to be caught when they return to rivers where they were spawned. There was a sharp confrontation in the views of the two sides. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday morning.

POLYANSKIY URGES CONCLUSION OF TREATY WITH USSR

OW201529Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1450 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 20 Feb (AFP)--The Soviet Union today urged Japan to work for the early conclusion of a good neighbour, friendship and cooperation treaty between the two countries. Soviet ambassador to Japan Dmitriy Polyanskiy made the call when he met with Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Shintaro Abe.

Japanese sources said the ambassador asked Mr Abe whether he had studied closely the contents of the Soviet proposals for the treaty presented during the meeting between Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda and his Soviet counterpart Andrey Gromyko in Moscow last month. Mr Abe reportedly said that Japan took a different stand from the Kremlin on the proposals with top priority being given to an early settlement of the territorial disputes between the two countries.

Ambassador Polyanskiy then asked Mr Abe to explain the details of the controversial "antihegemony" clause to be contained in the text of the Japan-China treaty for peace and friendship.

The chief cabinet secretary reiterated Japan's stand on the issue by saying the anti-hegemony clause was not directed [against] any specific country, especially not the Soviet Union. The Japanese sources said that the Soviet side was believed to have taken note of the Japanese Government's official view on the antihegemony clause.

During the meeting, the ambassador said that he had received a letter from Mr Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, addressed to Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda. They agreed that the message, which is a reply to the Fukuda message delivered to Mr Brezhnev by Foreign Minister Sonoda last month in Moscow, will be handed to the prime minister Wednesday.

DEFENSE OFFICIAL SAYS CONSTITUTION ALLOWS NUCLEAR WEAPONS

OW190640Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0620 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Feb KYODO--A Defense Agency official told the Diet Saturday that the constitution theoretically allows Japan to possess some tactical nuclear arms if they are meant purely for defense. Japan, however, has kept itself from possessing nuclear weapons under its three-point antinuclear policy, he said. Keiichi Ito, director general of the agency's Defense Bureau, made these remarks before the lower house budget committee while pointing to the varied natures of tactical nuclear arms. It is believed that he made the statement in line with the previously announced government stand that Japan may legally possess nuclear arms if they are within the limit of self-defense and they are not meant for aggression against foreign countries. Ito's statement is expected to cause a controversy over the constitutionality of holding nuclear arms. Ito was replying to Communist interpellator Iwao Teramae who questioned on the agency's written view on the limit of self-defense, which was submitted to the Diet committee on Tuesday.

The agency's view described the limit of self-defense as subject to change according to the international situation, the level of military technology and other circumstances. It said that the F-15 Eagle fighter planes and the P-3C anti-submarine patrol aircraft, which the agency plans to buy from the United States, do not constitute war potential forbidden by the constitution.

Teramae questioned what specific weapons come under the category of "arms designed for destructive attack on foreign soils," which the agency's view rejected as war potential surpassing what it considers the limit of self-defense.

Ito replied such weapons included long-range bombers, intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), long-range strategic bombers, submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBM) and intermediate-range ballistic missiles (IRBM). Ito declined a clear reply about the neutron bomb, saying its power was still unclear.

The communist expressed strong suspicion that the government has changed its stand on the limit of self-defense.

However, Shin Kanemaru, director general of the agency, said there had been no change in the government view on the matter.

MORE FOREIGN SUPPORT OF 'TWO KOREAS' MEMORANDUM

SRV Foreign Ministry Statement

SK190030Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 18 Feb 78

[Text] According to a Vietnamese press report from Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Foreign Ministry issued a statement on 16 February in connection with our government's release of a memorandum denouncing the "two-Koreas" plot by splittists within and without.

The statement noted the following:

The DPRK Government released a memorandum on 1 February denouncing the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique for trying to legalize the continued division of Korea and to fabricate two Koreas. The memorandum also denounced the rascals' efforts to bolster South Korea's military strength by bringing in more modern weapons of various types, and to strengthen the fascist dictatorship in South Korea.

The SRV Government wholeheartedly supports the DPRK Government's just position manifested in the memorandum and strongly denounces all intrigues of the U.S. imperialists and their puppets who are trying to fabricate two Koreas in order to destroy the cause of Korea's reunification. Korea's reunification should be realized by the Korean people themselves, without any sort of outside interference.

The SRV Government and all Vietnamese people firmly support the just and rational proposals and policies which the DPRK Government has set forth for realization of Korea's independent and peaceful reunification and will continue to support the Korean people's just cause until complete victory is achieved.

L'HUMANITE Commentary

SK200410Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0354 GMT 20 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 Feb (KCNA)--The French paper L'HUMANITE on February 13 carried a commentary on the memorandum of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Stressing that Korea must be reunified to develop as one state, the paper said:

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea led by President Kim Il-song, the only personifier of the desire of the entire Korean people, published a memorandum denouncing the ever more unscrupulous "two Koreas" plot aimed at maintaining U.S. rule over the southern half of the country.

The memorandum, divided into five parts, condemns the argument of "cross recognition of North and South Korea" intended to perpetuate the split and "international mediation" allegedly for "guaranteeing" peace in Korea.

Noting that tension persists in Korea and her reunification has not been achieved not because of the absence of "international mediation", but because of the interference of outside forces and their splitting manoeuvres, the memorandum denounces the argument for "equilibrium of strength" and the U.S. incessant reinforcement of South Korean Armed Forces under this pretext.

It is unthinkable that Korea, whose people has been a homogeneous nation through a long history spanning 5,000 years, should be divided into "two Koreas" in our era, the memorandum said, and added: The commonness of the homogeneous nation is gradually disappearing and the Korean people are suffering tragedies.

The paper continued: Korea must be reunified to develop as one state. This alone can put an end to the cause of split and war in this region.

The Democratic people's Republic of Korea called upon the governments and peoples of all countries to actively help the struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

In conclusion the paper said that the Korean people always regard it as their legitimate right and loftiest task to retake the territory and people lost at the hands of outside forces and establish national sovereignty.

PREMIER YI CHONG-OK RECEIVES INDIAN ENVOY

OW190925Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0836 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Feb (KCNA)--Comrade Yi Chong-ok, premier of the Administration Council, on February 16 received J.T. Kallukaran, Indian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our country, and had a friendly talk with him when the latter paid him a courtesy call. On hand was personage concerned Chong Nam-ho.

YUGOSLAV HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE SIGNS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

SK210415Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0348 GMT 21 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Feb (KCNA)--An agreement on cooperation in public health, medical science and pharmacy between the Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was signed in Pyongyang on February 20.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Pak Myong-pin and other personages concerned and on the opposite side were the members of the health delegation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia headed by Zora Tomic, member of the Federal Committee of Health and Social Welfare, and Tode Vardziski, Yugoslav ambassador to our country.

The agreement was signed by Pak Myong-pin, authorized by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Zora Tomic, authorized by the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Meets Yi Chong-ok

SK210440Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0400 GMT 21 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Feb (KCNA)--Comrade Yi Chong-ok, premier of the Administration Council, on February 20 received and had a friendly conversation with the health delegation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia headed by Zora Tomic, member of the Federal Executive Council and president of the Federal Committee of Health and Social Welfare, on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were personage concerned Pak Myong-pin and Tode Vardziski, Yugoslav ambassador to our country.

Hosts Banquet

OW211145Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 21 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Feb (KCNA)--Zora Tomic, member of the Federal Executive Council and president of the Federal Committee of Health and Social Welfare, who is heading the health delegation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, arranged a banquet on February 20 in connection with the delegation's visit to our country.

Invited to the banquet were Pak Myong-pin and other personages concerned. Present there were the members of the Yugoslav health delegation and Tode Vardziski, Yugoslav ambassador to our country.

Addressing the banquet, the head of the delegation said that during her visit to Korea she acquainted herself with the fine successes made by the Korean people in the field of public health and in the work for the promotion of the people's health. Korea has reared many competent public health workers carrying through the public health policy of the Workers Party of Korea headed by Comrade President Kim Il-song, she noted, and went on:

We are deeply impressed by the Korean people's high pride in the proud revolutionary struggle, liberation struggle and struggle for socialist construction guided by their respected president Comrade Kim Il-song. She sincerely hoped for the early realization of the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

Speaking next, Pak Myong-pin said that the period of the delegation's visit to our country was significant days during which the bonds of friendship between the Korean and Yugoslav peoples and public health workers were further cemented.

The active support and solidarity expressed by the delegation for the revolutionary struggle of our people during its visit will greatly inspire the struggle of our people for expediting socialist construction and achieving independent and peaceful reunification of the country, he declared.

Saying that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries have been developing on good terms in various fields, he wished the Yugoslav people greater successes in the preparation for the eleventh congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

The attendants of the banquet raised glasses to the strengthening and development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Korean and Yugoslav peoples and public health workers, to the good health and long life of the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and to the good health and long life of the outstanding leader of the Yugoslav people Comrade Josip Broz Tito.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

GDR ECONOMIC-MINING MINISTER SIGNS TECHNICAL PROTOCOL

SK210455Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0356 GMT 21 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Feb (KCNA)--A protocol was signed in Pyongyang on February 20 after talks between the government economic delegations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the German Democratic Republic for the implementation of the agreement on developing economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the DPRK and GDR Governments which was concluded on December 11, 1977.

Present at the signing ceremony on our side were Cho Chang-tok and other personages concerned and on the GDR side were the members of the government economic delegation of the German Democratic Republic headed by Kurt Singhuber, minister of ore mining, metallurgy and potash, and Franz Everhartz, GDR ambassador to our country.

The protocol was signed by Cho Chang-tok and Kurt Singhuber.

Meeting with Yi Chong-ok

SK210435Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0358 GMT 21 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Feb (KCNA)--Comrade Yi Chong-ok, premier of the Administration Council, on February 20 met and had a friendly conversation with the government economic delegation of the German Democratic Republic headed by Kurt Singhuber, minister of ore mining, metallurgy and potash, on a visit to our country.

Present on the occasion were personage concerned Cho Chang-tok and Franz Everhartz, GDR ambassador to our country.

20 February Reception

OW211135Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 21 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 Feb (KCNA)--Franz Everhartz, ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to our country, arranged a cocktail party on February 20 at his embassy in connection with the visit to our country of the government economic delegation of the German Democratic Republic.

Invited to the cocktail party were Cho Chang-tok and other personages concerned. Present there were the members of the GDR government economic delegation headed by Kurt Singhuber, minister of ore mining, metallurgy and potash.

Addressing the cocktail party, the ambassador said: The Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forward the new seven-year plan and the programmatic speech made by respected Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, at the Supreme People's Assembly session and his New Year address for 1978 inspire the Korean people to great initiatives.

The German Socialist Unity Party and the working people of the German Democratic Republic express deep sympathy with the heroic strivings of the Korean people for socialist construction and for betterment of the people's living.

Speaking next, Cho Chang-tok noted that measures for the implementation of the agreement on developing economic, scientific and technical cooperation concluded between the two governments and questions of common concern were successfully discussed during the visit of the delegation.

Referring to the successes made by the working people of the German Democratic Republic in the implementation of the decisions of the ninth congress of the German Socialist Unity Party, he wished them greater successes in the future struggle.

The attendants of the cocktail party drank toasts to the strengthening and development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and GDR peoples, to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of

the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to the good health and long life of esteemed Comrade Uch'ol Hong, first deputy secretary of the Central Committee of the German Socialist Unity Party and chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic.

The two-party press conference in a friendly atmosphere.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISITS AFRICAN COUNTRIES, MEETS LEADERS

Diarra of Mali

SK200327Y Pyongyang KCNA in Korean 2200 GMT 19 Feb 78 SK

[Text] According to a news report our country's government delegation headed by Comrade Chong Chun-ki visited the Republic of Mali from 27 January through 1 February. On 27 January the delegation met with Baba Diarra, vice chairman of the Mali National Liberation Military Committee and minister of planning. The vice chairman asked after the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's health and wished him a long life. He expressed active support for and solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for fatherland unification. During the visit, the delegation toured plants and enterprises.

Pires of Cape Verde

SK200352Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0338 GMT 20 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 Feb (KCNA)--A government delegation of our country headed by Comrade Chong Chun-ki visited the Republic of Cape Verde from February 2 to 3, according to a report.

On February 2 it called on Pedro Pires, prime minister of the Republic of Cape Verde, and had talks with him. Present on the occasion were the general secretary and officials of the Foreign Ministry of the host country. The prime minister warmly congratulated the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song on his election to the high post of president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He affirmed firm solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Pereira of Cape Verde

SK200353Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0339 GMT 20 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 Feb (KCNA)--Aristides Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde, met on February 3 a government delegation of our country headed by Comrade Chong Chun-ki which was visiting the country, according to a report.

The head of the delegation courteously conveyed greetings of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the president. The president inquired after the health of the great leader and asked the head of the delegation to convey greetings to him. Stressing that the relations of militant friendship between the two parties and two countries are fraternal and everlasting, he expressed firm solidarity with the Korean people in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The conversation proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Mendes, Maria of Guinea-Bissau

SK210110Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 10 Feb 78 SK

[Text] According to a news report the government delegation headed by Comrade Chong Chun-ki visited the Republic of Guinea-Bissau from 4 through 8 February. The delegation met and exchanged conversation with Commissioner of Foreign Affairs Victor Saude Maria on 6 February. The delegation met with Principal Commissioner Francisco Mendes on 8 February.

Saying that his party and government has recognized only the DPRK--the one Korea under his excellency the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song--the principal commissioner pointed out that the friendly relations between the two countries are fraternal, militant and permanent and have been cultivated amid a bitter antiimperialist struggle.

The principal commissioner and the commissioner of foreign affairs expressed firm support for and solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the reunification of the country.

Cabral of Guinea-Bissau

SK210141Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 20 Feb 78 SK

[Text] According to a news report Chairman of the National Council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau Luiz Cabral received the visiting DPRK Government delegation, headed by Comrade Chong Chun-ki, on 8 February. The delegation head respectfully conveyed the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's warm greeting to the chairman of the National Council.

The chairman of the National Council expressed deep gratitude to the great leader for sending him warm greetings. After asking about the health of his excellency the respected and beloved leader and President Kim Il-song, the chairman of the National Council sincerely wished the leader a long life. He expressed active support for and solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. He stressed that the friendly relations between Guinea-Bissau and the DPRK will continue forever.

The conversation was held in a friendly atmosphere.

Togo, Congo ministers

SK210147Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 20 Feb 78 SK

[Text] According to a news report the government delegation led by Comrade Chong Chun-ki arrived in the Congo on 14 February. Welcoming the delegation at the airport were functionaries concerned, including Tati-Loutard, the minister of culture, arts and sports of the People's Republic of the Congo, the chief secretary of the prime minister, the general secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the adviser to the prime minister on foreign affairs.

A welcoming ceremony was held at the airport. The DPRK ambassador and his staff greeted the delegation at the airport.

The delegation had stopped over in Lome the same day en route to the Congo. Greeting and seeing off the delegation at the airport were functionaries concerned, including the Togo minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Also present at the airport were the DPRK ambassador and his staff in Togo.

MOZAMBIQUE, YAR LEADERS PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR DPRK

Mozambique's Machel

OW190931Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Feb (KCNA)--Samora Moises Machel, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, on February 14 received Song Ki-tae, ambassador of our country to Mozambique, according to a report.

The ambassador courteously conveyed cordial regards of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the president.

The president respectfully inquired after the health of the great leader and said: "I am thankful for the cordial regards of Comrade Kim Il-song." The president asked the ambassador to convey his most heartfelt greetings to the great leader.

Referring to the successes of the DPRK in socialist construction, the president said that the successes of the Korean people are the successes of the Mozambican people and they give a great inspiration to them.

Expressing unconditional support to the stand of the Korean people for the reunification of the country, he extended firm support and solidarity for the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. On hand there was Joaquim Alberto Chissano, foreign minister of Mozambique.

YAR's Al-Ghashmi

OW190957Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0820 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Feb (KCNA)--Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, chairman of the Command Council and commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the Yemen Arab Republic, on February 12 received Kim Yong-il, ambassador of our country to the Yemen Arab Republic, according to a report from San'a.

The ambassador courteously conveyed regards of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the chairman of the Command Council.

The chairman said: "I am thankful for the cordial regards of respected President Kim Il-song. Please convey the warm greetings of me and the people of the Yemen Arab Republic to the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il-song and the friendly Korean people."

Referring to the question of Korean reunification and the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, the chairman stressed:

"Our stand is the same with that of respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song and the Korean people and it will not change in the future.

"I hope Korea will be reunified at an early date under the wise leadership of respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song. The Government and people of the Yemen Arab Republic will always stand on the side of respected His Excellency President Kim Il-song and the friendly Korean people and this friendship of ours will be everlasting. Please tell this to respected President Kim Il-song."

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

PAK SONG-CHOL DELEGATION CONCLUDES PDRY VISIT

Calls on United Front's Isma'il

OW190939Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0814 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Feb (KCNA)--Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who was heading a party and government delegation of our country, on 15 February paid a call on 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee of the United National Front political organisation of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, according to a report. The head of the delegation courteously conveyed a verbal message of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to Secretary General 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il.

The secretary general expressed deep thanks for the precious message of the great leader. He asked the head of the delegation to convey his cordial regards to the great leader and wholeheartedly wished the great leader good health and a long life. He said: "We will continue supporting the just cause of the Korean people against the U.S. troops' presence in South Korea and invariably maintain this principled stand in the future, too, as in the past."

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere. Present on the occasion were 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and the secretary for external affairs of the Central Committee of the United National Front Political Organisation; the foreign minister, the minister of state security, and the minister of health. Also present were the members of the party and government delegation of our country and the ambassador of our country to Democratic Yemen. The secretary general arranged a luncheon in honour of the party and government delegation of our country that day. It proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Calls on Prime Minister Hasani

OW190945Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Feb (KCNA)--Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who was heading a party and government delegation of the DPRK, met on 12 February 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, according to a report. A talk took place in a friendly atmosphere.

That day the prime minister hosted a banquet in honour of the party and government delegation of our country. The DPRK ambassador to Democratic Yemen was present there. Also on hand were the secretary for external affairs of the Central Committee of the United National Front political organisation, the minister of trade and supply, the minister of health and the minister of communications of the PDRY.

The attendants of the banquet drank toasts to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and to the good health and long life of 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee of the United National Front political organisation, and Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, chairman of the Presidential Council of the PDRY. The banquet proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Talks between the party and government delegations of our country and the PDRY were held on February 15 and 16. Present on our side were head of the delegation Comrade Pak Song-chol, its members and the ambassador of our country to Democratic Yemen. Present on the opposite side were Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani and the secretary for external affairs of the Central Committee of the United National Front political organization, the minister of health and the minister of education. At the talks, which proceeded in a friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on the question of strengthening and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Democratic Yemen and international issues of common concern and an agreement of views was reached on all problems discussed. During its stay in Democratic Yemen, the party and government delegation of our country saw museums and factories.

Calls on Presidential Chairman 'Ali

OW190951Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, 19 Feb (KCNA)--Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and vice-president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who was heading a party and government delegation of our country, on 14 February called on Salim Rubayyi 'Ali, chairman of the Presidential Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, according to a report. The head of the delegation courteously conveyed cordial regards of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-sung to the chairman of the Presidential Council. The chairman inquired after the health of the great leader and expressed deep thanks for his cordial regards. The chairman asked the head of the delegation to convey his warm greetings to the great leader and his respectful wish for the great leader's good health and long life. He also expressed unqualified support and solidarity for the Korean people's struggle to reunify the country.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. Present there were 'Abdallah Ahmad Bukayr, minister of health; and a member of the Central Committee of the United National Front political organization, and the director of the Asian Affairs Department of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The members of the party and government delegation of our country and the Korean ambassador to the PDRY were also on hand.

Departs 16 February

SK200004Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 19 Feb 78 SK

[Text] According to a news report, our country's party and government delegation, headed by DPRK Vice President Comrade Pak Song-chol, left Aden on 16 February by special plane following the completion of its visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. A farewell ceremony was held at the airport which was decorated with flags of our country and the PDRY and with farewell slogans. Following the playing of the national anthems of our country and the PDRY, the head of our country's party and government delegation, accompanied by the PDRY prime minister, reviewed an honor guard.

At the airport, the delegation was seen off by executive members of the United National Front political organization and the government and responsible functionaries of social organizations, including PDRY Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, members of the Central Committee of the United National Front political organization, the economic secretary of the Central Committee, the foreign affairs secretary, the minister of health, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Civil Service and the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, along with many diplomatic envoys in this country. The delegation was also seen off by our country's ambassador and his staff.

FOREIGN MINISTER TO SEEK COOPERATION WITH NATO

SK180119Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0114 GMT 18 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 18 Feb (HAPTONG)--South Korea plans to seek ways to set up a link of cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in connection with planned withdrawal of U.S. ground troops from Korea. The scope of cooperation envisaged by the government was confined to basic military fields such as mutual observation of military exercises and exchange of assessments of military situations, government sources said today. The government hopes to open a channel aimed at maintaining cooperative ties with the west's defense organization, the sources said.

Seoul's idea will be raised when Foreign Minister Pak Tong-chin visits Belgium late next week on a leg of his current five-nation tour. Pak will meet with NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns for talks on the opening of proposed cooperative ties with NATO and other matters of mutual interest. The sources said it is significant that the government seeks cooperation with NATO at a time when South Korea is vigorously working to establish a self-reliant defense posture with the planned American military pullout from Korea.

OFFICIAL CONCERN OVER SONODA REMARK ON DPRK

SK180830Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0820 GMT 18 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 18 Feb (HAPTONG)--The South Korean Government, concerned over a recent remark of Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda to the effect that there were signs pointing to a change in North Korea's attitude toward Japan, has reportedly asked Japan not to take precipitous measures leading to Japan-North Korea ties.

This request was made when Vice Foreign Minister Yun Ha-chong called in Japanese Ambassador to Korea Ryoze Sunobe Friday afternoon to ask about the Japanese Government's position on North Korea in the wake of Minister Sonoda's testimony before a Diet unit regarding Japan's relations with North Korea, it was reported today.

Meanwhile, the report said, Sonoda made it clear to his Korean counterpart Pak Tong-chin in Tokyo on February 13 that his congressional remark concerning North Korea had been made in consideration of domestic situations and that Japan would not recognize North Korea at the present stage.

CHOE KYU-HA URGES VETERANS TO COUNTER DPRK MOVES

SK210112Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0056 GMT 21 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 21 Feb (HAPTONG)--Premier Choe Kyu-ha today called on the war veterans to lead the van in further consolidating total national security posture to smash the North Korean scheme to communize the entire Korean Peninsula. Premier Choe made the call at the 19th general convention of the Korean Veterans Association.

Pointing out that a first batch of 6,000 U.S. troops has been scheduled to pull out of Korea this year, Premier Choe warned that the North Korean communists appear certain to take advantage of this change and to launch provocative activities.

He forecast that changes will continue to take place in the balance of power among major countries around the peninsula this year. "At this juncture, we cannot exclude the possibility of North Korea launching reckless provocations against us," he added. Also present at the convention were Defense Minister No Chae-hyon, other government leaders and retired generals and admirals.

NDP FACTION CALLS FOR YI NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE

SK200120Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0101 GMT 20 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, 20 Feb (HAPTONG)--A coalition of intraparty factions of the opposition New Democratic Party opposing party head Yi Chol-sung has agreed to intensify a campaign for party hegemony by calling for a national party convention in March and a vote of noconfidence against Yi.

The agreement was reached during a meeting of leaders of an intra-party committee to "struggle for the restoration of a pure opposition image," a grouping of non-parliamentary party leaders, and three leading rivals of Yi--Reps Kim Yong-sam, Yi Min-u and Chung Hae-yong--here Friday. They accused Yi of deliberately diluting the image of the NDP as an opposition force and called for a party convention in March to cast a vote of noconfidence against him.

Yi and his followers oppose the convocation of a party convention at this time on the ground that it would merely offer their rival factions a platform from which to mount their campaign for party hegemony. Yi's rival factions, however, claimed that Yi's leadership has failed and that a party convention is necessary to remove him from the leadership post by democratic means. The rival factions also stressed the need for such a convention to nominate the party's presidential candidate in this year's presidential election, a move opposed by party head Yi and his faction.

Yi: 'Petty' Party Struggle

SK210151Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0128 GMT 21 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul 21 Feb (HAPTONG)--Rep. Yi Chol-sung, head of the major opposition New Democratic Party now faced with a noconfidence move from his intraparty rival factions, said Monday that they should devote their energy to the struggle against the ruling camp before engaging in a petty intra-party power struggle. At a press conference he held on arrival at Kimpo Airport from a 40-day tour of the U.S. and Europe, the opposition leader, asked about a move by a coalition force opposing his leadership to convoke a national convention of the party in March, said that if such a request was submitted, it would [words indistinct] at the party's Supreme Council and Executive Committee.

Recalling a resolution passed in the last national convention under which the next national convention is to be held after the general election slated for February 1979, Rep. Yi claimed his term as party head would be effective until that time. However, he added that if a request for an extraordinary national convention came, it would be properly dealt with in accordance with the party constitution under which a special national convention can be held if one-third of convention delegates ask for it. Rep. Yi further said that he would make known his stand on the controversial issue of whether to nominate his party's presidential candidate for the presidential election scheduled for mid-this year.

DPRK VICE PREMIER, DELEGATION ARRIVE 20 FEBRUARY

BK201351Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The vice premier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kong Chin-tae, accompanied by six members of his delegation flew in to Rangoon this afternoon. Kong Chin-tae and his delegation were received at the airport by Minister of Mines and Industry No 2 Col Maung Cho, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs U Win, Deputy Minister of Planning and Finance Dr Maung Shein and DPRK Ambassador to Burma Ma Chang-chol.

This evening, Minister of Mines and Industry No 2 Col Maung Cho hosted a banquet for the visiting vice premier and his delegation at the Tower guest house. A cultural dance show was also staged.

Among those accompanying the DPRK vice premier is Ho Kyong, vice minister of foreign trade. The vice premier and his party will be in Burma until 25 February.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0818 GMT on 20 February, citing BERNAMA, reports the arrival and adds: The 54 year old vice-premier, who is also a member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, is accompanied on this visit by six North Korean officials, including Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Trade Ho Kyong, the director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the director of the Ministry of External Economic Affairs.]

300 TONS OF RICE CEREMONIALLY HANDED OVER TO LAOS

BK171505Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK

[Text:] The third aid consignment of 300 tons of rice designed to promote friendship was given by the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] in a ceremony at (Ban Mong) village of Ton Phuong district, Luang Namtha Province, at the LPDR border at 1300 on 15 February.

The Burmese delegation was led by commander of the Eastern Burma Command's First Strategic Command, Lt Col (Nyo) Win. Its members were: Maj Aung Myint Baw, commander of the 5th Kachin Rifle Regiment; U Ohn Myint, director general of the Relief and Resettlement Department; U Kye Pe, chairman of the Tachilek township party unit; U (M. Khun Naw), secretary of the Tachilek township party unit; U (Sat Law Aye), chairman of the township people's council; U (Kyi Tint), secretary of the township people's council; U Shein Aung, deputy director of the Relief and Resettlement Department; and U Khin Aung, assistant director of the Relief and Resettlement Department.

The LPDR delegation was headed by Bouniam Oukham, director of the General Logistics Department, who represented the Foreign Ministry, and consisted of an assistant officer from the Foreign Ministry, a division-level political and military officer and a district security and administrative committee chairman. Burmese Charge d'Affaires to Laos Col Kyaw Zaw and some guests from both sides were also invited to the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, the Lao delegation led by Bouniam Oukham gave a luncheon for the Burmese delegation. The Burmese delegation later invited the Lao delegation to Burma and hosted a dinner for them. Cultural dances were also staged for the visiting guests.

In 1976, Burma gave Laos 300 tons of rice and 10 tons of salt. In 1977, another consignment of 300 tons of rice was given to Laos.

DPRK ENVOY'S BANQUET MARKS POL POT OCTOBER 1977 VISIT

BK210142Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 Feb 78 JK

[Text] At the state palace on the night of 18 February, DPRK Ambassador Comrade Kim Mun-hwan and his wife hosted a grand banquet to commemorate the successful 4-8 October 1977 official friendship visit paid to the DPRK by the party-government delegation led by Comrade Pol Pot, secretary of the KCP Central Committee and prime minister, at the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the KWP and president of the DPRK--the great leader of the Korean people.

Attending were Comrades Pol Pot, secretary of the KCP Central Committee and prime minister; Nuon Chea, deputy secretary of the KCP Central Committee and chairman of the CPRA Standing Committee; Ieng Sary, member of the Standing Committee of the KCP Central Committee and deputy prime minister for foreign affairs; Vorn Vet; member of the Standing Committee of the KCP Central Committee and deputy prime minister for economy; Mey Prang, chairman of the Committee for Communications; Cheng An, chairman of the Committee for Industry; Thiounn Thioeunn, minister of public health; Ieng Thirith, minister of social action; and many cadres from various ministries.

On the Korean side accompanying Comrade Ambassador Kim Mun-hwan and his wife were all the staff members of the DPRK Embassy.

Comrade Ambassador Kim Mun-hwan movingly toasted the constant growth of the good revolutionary friendship and firm militant solidarity between the parties and peoples of the two countries, reflected in the Cambodian party-government delegation's visit to the DPRK.

Comrade Kim Mun-hwan also congratulated the Cambodian people for their successive victories. He also expressed the determination of the Korean people, led by Comrade President Kim Il-song--their great leader, to struggle for Korea's reunification and against the U.S. imperialists' criminal maneuvers to perpetuate two Koreas.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot recalled the unforgettable splendid visit of the Cambodian party-government delegation to the DPRK, especially the warm, solemn welcome filled with love, respect and profound military friendship that Comrade President Kim Il-song, the party, government and the fraternal and comradely Korean people accorded the delegation.

The comrade party secretary also congratulated the Korean people's success in carrying on the socialist revolution and construction in the northern part of the republic.

The comrade party secretary also extended best wishes to the Korean people for complete success in their second 7-year plan. He reiterated that the KCP and Cambodian Government and people resolutely stand on the side of the fraternal Korean people in their just cause for independent and peaceful reunification of the Korean fatherland in conformity with the three-point principle and five-point program set forth by Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people.

Following the banquet, there was a film show on the above-mentioned visit. The banquet and film show proceeded in a warm, cordial and intimate atmosphere.

Commemorative Film Shown

BK210240Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the night of 19 February the Foreign Ministry's cinematographic section for friendship with foreign countries held a film show at the Phnom Penh Friendship Theater. Comrade Ieng Sary, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs, presided over this function honoring the diplomatic corps in Democratic Cambodia. Accompanying Comrade Ieng Sary were many cadres from various ministries and hundreds of other people. PRC Ambassador Comrade Sun Hao, DPRK ambassador Comrade Kim Mun-hwan and his wife, and heads of diplomatic missions of other countries and their wives as well as members of the embassies of those countries attended the show.

The film was on the official friendship visit of the Cambodian party-government delegation led by Comrade Pol Pot, secretary of the KCP Central Committee and prime minister, in the DPRK in October 1977 at the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-sung, general secretary of the KWP, president of the DPRK and the great leader of the Korean people.

The film showed various proofs of the profound, traditional revolutionary friendship and militant solidarity between the parties and peoples of Cambodia and Korea, based on Marxism-Leninism and pure proletarian internationalism and on the nonaligned principles of equality, mutual respect and sincere mutual assistance.

The audience was particularly impressed by the art troupe performances by about 50,000 male and female youth during the mass meeting held on 7 October 1977 at Pyongyang's Moranbong stadium to welcome the Cambodian party-government delegation. The performances were attended by more than 100,000.

The audience gave the film many rounds of loud applause. The show proceeded in a warm and cordial atmosphere of friendship.

CHINA'S COMING CPPCC, NPC SESSIONS NOTED

BK210322Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[From the "International News" feature]

[Excerpt] The Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference [CPPCC] National Committee held a session in Peking from 16 through 18 February 1978. Presiding were Comrades Wei Kuo-ching, member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee and vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, and Ulanfu, member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee and (?vice chairman) of the National People's Congress [NPC].

The session decided that the session of the Fifth CPPCC National Committee will be held on 24 February 1978, and the first session of the Fifth NPC will be held on 26 February 1978.

The NPC session will discuss the following agenda: the work report of the government, revision of the PRC Constitution, the report on the revision of the constitution, and the election of new state organizations.

The Cambodian people are delighted to hear this splendid news, and extend best wishes for total success to the Chinese people and especially to the NPC led by the CCP with Comrade Chairman Hua Kuo-feng as the great leader.

BORDER CLASHES CONTINUE 15 THROUGH 17 FEBRUARY

15, 16 February Action

BK180010Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2322 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Since 6 January when our heroic Cambodian Revolutionary Army and people smashed the expansionist, annexationist Vietnamese aggressors and drove them from our Cambodian territory, the latter have regularly and criminally tried to violate and encroach on our border areas. However, all of the Vietnamese enemy's criminal attempts and dark, pernicious maneuvers have been successively crushed by our heroic army and people.

1. On the Mondolkiri battlefield: On 15 February a Vietnamese platoon sneaked into our territory near Mereuch village, south of the Srepok River. Our army killed four and wounded one of the enemy. The survivors fled in shame back to their country.

2. On the Ratanakiri battlefield: On 16 February the enemy again encroached at (O Nang), south of Route 19. Hardly had they set foot on our land than they stepped on our mines, ran into bamboo spikes and met with a heavy attack by our army. Several of them were killed or wounded, and the survivors fled in shame back to their country. They also encountered landmines and spikes along Route 19 where they were heavily attacked by our army. They lost several dead and wounded, and the survivors fled in shame back to their country.

These criminal acts clearly show that the Vietnamese enemy stubbornly continues to encroach on our territory. Though the Vietnamese keep clamoring about "special friendship" and "special solidarity", they still want to swallow Cambodia.

17 Feb Encroachment Repulsed

BK200000Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The Vietnamese enemy continues to encroach, invade and aggress against our territory in the border area. In fact, on 17 February he invaded at a spot west of O Sethei in Ratanakiri Province. We attacked him as soon as he set foot on our soil, killing five and wounding seven. The survivors turned back and ran into landmines and bamboo spikes. Several were killed or wounded.

This clearly shows that the Vietnamese enemy has not abandoned his plan to aggress against and annex our Cambodian territory. Though he clamors about "negotiations", "special friendship" and "special solidarity", he can never deceive world public opinion which cherishes peace and justice. Nor will our Cambodian people be deceived; they will never carelessly confuse friend and foe.

BORDER DISTRICTS BRAVE RECENT SHELLING TO COMPLETE HARVEST

BK190015Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2318 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] While continuing to utter sweet phrases, claiming a "special friendship" and "special solidarity" with Cambodia, the Vietnamese enemy has regularly fired artillery into our territory. On 15, 16 and 17 February he fired at Dong and Ang Prasre communes in Romeas Hek district, and at Bos Mon, Pong Toek and Sangke communes in Samraong district. The Vietnamese enemy has also fired hundreds of artillery rounds into villages in Prasot, Samraong, Kompong Rou and Chantrea districts, destroying considerable quantities of rice in the fields.

In all these districts our mobile production corps' young men and women are harvesting rice more persistently than in other districts, because of the difficulties caused by the enemy's continuous shelling. There is more rice to be harvested in these districts than in other areas, because of the delays caused by continuous Vietnamese aggression. However, despite the enemy shelling the mobile production corps is determined to protect the crops and quickly harvest all the grain without leaving even a single field unharvested. The young men and women in other border districts where the harvest has already been completed are militantly helping with the harvest in Prasot, Samraong, Kompong Rou and Chantrea districts in order to foil the Vietnamese enemy's covetous attempts to hinder our harvesting.

This clearly shows that despite the deceit, tricks and intimidation practiced by the Vietnamese enemy, our people and young men and women of the mobile corps and revolutionary army will never surrender. On the contrary, the Vietnamese can only further reveal their evil cunning and further fan our people's flaming indignation.

POW CITES SRV PLANS FOR THREE COUNTRIES IN 'FEDERATION'

BK201100Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[13 February signed confession by Vietnamese Captain (To Van Nghinh)--recorded in Vietnamese with simultaneous Cambodian translation]

[Excerpts] My name is (To Van Nghinh). At home I was called (Ho Ky). I am 35 years old. My rank is captain; I was commander of the 9th Special Company of the independent 3rd Regiment of Dong Thap. I was born in (Pho An) village, (Tinh Vinh Hoa) commune, Chau Thanh district, Sa Dec Province.

In 1976 I took a course on the history of the Indochinese Communist Party taught by two-star Colonel (Giang Minh), political officer of the Dong Thap military regiment. He explained that since the total liberation of Indochina, Cambodia had turned against and betrayed the Indochinese federation. Therefore we Vietnamese had an international obligation to wage war to liberate Cambodia and establish a new communist administration like the one in Vietnam.

In 1977 my unit was stationed in Hong Ngu district. In November that year I was promoted to commander of the 9th Special Company of the Dong Thap independent 3rd Regiment. I would like to report on our activities as follows:

On 30 January 1978 two-star Colonel (Vinh Ky), commander of the independent 3rd Regiment of Dong Thap, held a military meeting at (Tan Thanh) commune, Hong Ngu district, Dong Thap Province. He said that one-star General (Trinh Van Vy), commander of the 9th Military Region, had plans for Dong Thap's 3rd regiment to take up a position in the (Song Tranh) stream area, from which an offensive would be launched into Cambodia by a main force of three battalions. The 9th Special Company would spearhead the attack.

These battalions were first to establish positions along the (Cao Cao) River while the 9th Special Company was to take position further ahead near the (Song Tranh) stream so as to assess the situation and gather information in Cambodia.

It was said that the 8th Division was stationed east of this front, and would be reinforced by units from the 9th Military Region while on the Hong Ngu side the forces would be supported by artillery units.

Later, the two-star colonel ordered us to enter Cambodian territory and reconnoitre in this area for 2 days--2 and 3 February 1978. A group of nine men under my command set out on this mission. We split into three three-man units.

We were to penetrate at least 2 km inside Cambodia and see whether there were tanks, how many forces there were and where these forces were located. I penetrated 2 km into Cambodian territory about 8 km west of (Krang Leav) stream, where I was captured on 2 February.

Before we set out, Colonel (Vinh Ky) told us that in case of arrest we should do our best to keep our secrets. We should say that we were former Thieu-Ky officers escaping from jail, and ask for political asylum in Cambodia or for the Cambodian Government's help in getting us to France where our families were waiting for us. We were to tell the Cambodian authorities that we could no longer tolerate the oppression of the Viet Cong government. If interrogation became unbearable, we should reveal only a few secrets. We were told to do our best to survive, for the situation in 1978 would see an important change as the three Indochinese countries would be united again and the conflicts settled. There would be prisoner exchanges and we would be freed. He said: Do not worry about your families; the government will take good care of them.

If you are captured and sent to jail, he said, you should make contact with our people. Be careful; we will send people to contact you. Take extra precautions in exchanging information.

He said: You must be absolutely loyal to the party. If you confess and tell them about our domestic policies and our policy toward the three Indochinese countries, you will be considered traitors. He ordered us to keep the secrets about our units at all costs. If successful, we would be promoted. As for me, I would be promoted and sent to attend courses at a Soviet command and general staff college.

Colonel (Vinh Ky) lectured us as follows: When we finally topple the present KCP administration, we will set up a new administration in Cambodia. We are confident of liberating Cambodia in 1978. Our Vietnamese forces will complete all military tasks. We have many more reserve forces; we have received considerable troop reinforcements from north Vietnam and have trained several Cambodians, especially Cambodians of Kampuchea Kraom such as those from Preah Trapeang--Tra Vinh--and Moat Chruk--Chau Doc--[words indistinct] and Khleang--Soc Trang--as reserve forces.

He continued: Our attacking forces will comprise infantry, armored, artillery and air units of our Vietnamese armed forces; the fifth column forces will be made up primarily of special units and reconnaissance units.

13 February 1978

Signed: (To Van Nghinh)

VICTIMS OF 6 DECEMBER SRV RAID DESCRIBE ATROCITIES

BK191340Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1303 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Station correspondent's interviews with peasants and a member of a mobile production unit in Kompong Rou district, Svay Pieng sector, eastern Region--date not given; portions recorded]

[Excerpts] We traveled from Svay Rieng town to Kompong Rou district, passing through the villages of Tuol Trabek, Ang Kduoch, Dong, Kroeus, Don An, Ta Pon, Thom and other villages in the communes of Prey Thom, (?Nhor), Taong Yaong, Kset and (?Samlei). In (Russei Am) village we interviewed old people, our sisters, peasants and female comrade members of the mobile production unit who were in the process of harvesting rice. The harvest offensive was proceeding actively in a profound revolutionary atmosphere. The following are the interviews:

[Question] What cooperative are you from?

[Answer] The (Russei Am) cooperative, Kset commune, Kompong Rou district.

[Question] We wish to learn of the atrocities committed by the Vietnamese enemy when it invaded our Kompong Rou district. We also want to know about the enemy's activities and his crimes against our people. When did the Vietnamese enemy invade Kompong Rou district?

[Answer] On 6 December. They came from Route 1, through (?Ansang) and (?Tralaongkohos).

[Question] What sort of crimes did they commit against our people?

[Answer] They were very ferocious. They raped women and carried off our rice in trucks. They arrested people; they tortured and abducted small children and old people; they tied up their arms and legs and loaded them into their trucks; they forced women into their trenches and raped them.

The atrocities of these evil Vietnamese were extremely serious. They tied people like pigs; they took rice, cattle and everything. Kompong Rou had plenty of cattle and poultry, but now you cannot find any. Before the invasion we had harvested about 2,000 bushels of rice; but they took it away. They even took all our seed rice. Nothing is left; they burned our homes and rice mills, and took away our threshers. They gathered old people at one place and forced them to harvest rice for them. They took all the rice we had harvested to their country.

[Question] During the U.S. imperialist war of aggression, how did the people of Kompong Rou district help and support the Vietnamese revolutionary army and the miserable Vietnamese people who had fled their homes and villages?

[Answer] During the five years of war, the people of Kompong Rou district supported them because we believed in their revolution. We gave them food and shelter. During U.S. bombing raids we tried to hide them and brought them to safety. But now we are all fed up with them. They burn our homes and plunder our rice. They are so proud of having defeated the United States. They try to annex our Cambodian territory. In fact, their revolution is not a revolution; it is nothing but violence. One never makes revolution that way. They took everything; they destroyed even our bowls, plates, pots and pans. Our kitchens were all damaged and smashed, our furniture kicked about and broken.

[Question] How about our sister here? What village are you from?

[Answer] I am from (Nhor) commune, Kompong Rou district.

[Question] I understand your family was shot to death by the Vietnamese enemy forces when they invaded Kompong Rou district; and that you were arrested and detained by the enemy. What did you see, and what atrocities did the Vietnamese aggressors commit in Kompong Rou?

[Answer] My family and I left [name indistinct], but when we arrived on the new road we encountered a heavy artillery barrage. We could not leave because we had our children with us. The Vietnamese troops surrounded us and kept us pinned down.

They searched our men, tied their hands and treated them as prisoners. Our men were then blindfolded and taken to their trucks. All were shot to death.

The younger women were gathered together under guard, and raped. At (?Vat Udong) or (?Vat Stoeng Meas) they tortured our people and raped our women. They also abducted our small children who are not old enough to join our mobile production units. These children were taken to their trenches. They stripped our old women and forced them to draw water for them. Those who were too slow were shot. They even stripped and raped pregnant women. They tortured them, and many women died. Several women were killed this way. The older, unattractive women were treated brutally and forced to harvest rice.

They gave each family four handfuls of rice. The rice we harvested was all carried in trucks to Vietnam. They took all our cattle and poultry, and burned our homes. Whatever they could not burn was taken to their country. They destroyed all the crops in our cooperative villages. Kompong Rou district has known untold misery. This border district has met untold hardships ever since the country was plunged into war.

IRRIGATION CONSTRUCTION DEFIES SRV INVASION, PLUNDER

BK201320Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Station commentary]

[Summary] With lofty revolutionary heroism and the KCP's leadership, our people have made countless sacrifices for the revolutionary cause of liberating the nation and people from slavery and the yoke of imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism and recovering our nation's independence, sovereignty and honor.

Since 17 April 1975 our people and revolutionary army have successfully defended the country and built it in great strides. They are joyfully determined to complete this task.

Since liberation our cooperative peasants have been able to independently solve the problem of feeding our masses while building a large rice surplus for export. But the enemies of all stripes, especially the annexationist Vietnamese, resent our ability to develop ourselves so quickly. "The Vietnamese enemy intends to obstruct and impede our nation-building efforts under the KCP's correct leadership, to prevent our country from developing and prospering and thus make it easy for Vietnam to dominate and annex Cambodia in the future."

Despite their shameful defeat of 6 January, the Vietnamese continue their incessant encroachments. Nonetheless, our Cambodian people are persevering in all tasks. "They have harvested the rice without loss, and planted dry season rice wherever possible. Thus, no obstacle can block our cooperative **peasants'** nation-building efforts.

Along with harvesting crops and planting dry-season rice, they have mobilized to continue building irrigation projects even more vigorously. This clearly shows that despite their criminal attempts to impede our nation-building movement, the Vietnamese aggressors can in no way prevent it from triumphantly advancing under the KCP's correct and clear-sighted leadership." Our cooperative peasants are determined to build all types of irrigation networks throughout the Cambodian countryside, and accelerate the production movement so as to help the country rapidly prosper.

COMMENTARY: ARMY HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL 'SO FAR'

BK190351Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Station commentary: "Our Revolutionary Army Is Determined To Remain the Iron Bulwark and Key Force in Defending Territorial Integrity, Independence, Sovereignty and Honor"]

[Text] Our Cambodian Revolutionary Army has always been vigorously patriotic, profoundly cherishing the proletariat. It sincerely and unconditionally respects, cherishes and serves the KCP, the Cambodian revolution, the Cambodian poor and the Cambodian people. It resolutely struggles against enemies of all stripes. It conscientiously studies and firmly implements the party's lines in all fields and under all circumstances.

In fact, during the internal war and the recent 5-year revolutionary war our revolutionary army fought and smashed the enemies of all stripes and won successive victories until the great 17 April 1975 victory. Though at that time the U.S. imperialists, their lackeys and the local reactionary and antinational authorities had superior manpower and firepower while our revolution lacked weapons, munitions, food, medicine and equipment, our army kept resolutely attacking. Thus the most vital element in the great 17 April victory was our revolutionary army, performing its tasks under the KCP's correct and clear-sighted leadership.

This army is a proletarian one: It comprises dedicated revolutionaries from the poor and lower middle peasant class, who dare to endure all hardships and unhesitatingly offer their lives in smashing the enemy to liberate the nation and the people from slavery.

This great victory was possible also because our army fought a people's war. It dares to fight with little or no weapons. It dares to attack with one landmine or one grenade--with primitive weapons such as long knives, bows and spikes. It strongly relies on the party's people's war tactics to wear down the enemy, and uses all-out warfare tactics to crush the enemy's main forces.

For this reason our revolutionary army was the key force in smashing the enemies of all stripes both during the internal war and the recent 5-year revolutionary war. Since 17 April 1975 our army has conscientiously built, strengthened and expanded itself as a revolutionary, proletarian army--the KCP's most loyal armed tool of dictatorship. It has strengthened and developed its love for the class and nation, and clearly distinguishes friend from foe. It has thus become an iron bulwark and key force in defending our territorial integrity,

independence, sovereignty and national honor in the current new stage of the Cambodian revolution--that is, defending the country and carrying on the socialist construction in Cambodia.

In early September 1977 the annexationist Vietnamese began sending several divisions supported by hundreds of tanks and artillery pieces and occasionally by air cover to carry out a large-scale, systematic invasion of Cambodia in the form of an undeclared war. Their criminal aim was to force Cambodia into a Vietnamese-led Indochinese federation. However, our revolutionary army successfully crushed their criminal activities on 6 January 1978.

Despite this most ignominious defeat, the Vietnamese enemy stubbornly continues its encroachments--shelling and strafing our territory, sending spies and commandoes to conduct espionage, subversion and sabotage inside our territory, killing our people and destroying our economy in the border regions. However, all these crimes are being steadily countered and smashed by our revolutionary army.

Our revolutionary army has so far been very successful in defending the banners of independence, sovereignty and national honor and the banner of independence and self-reliance of our Cambodian nation and people.

All this clearly shows that our revolutionary army--sons and daughters of the poor, directly nurtured and educated by the KCP in politics, ideology, organization and combat techniques is most powerful and invincible, can win over any enemy and is the iron bulwark and key force in defending our party, revolution, people, independence, sovereignty, national honor and territorial integrity.

Our revolutionary army is determined to carry on the socialist revolution even more vigorously and profoundly, in order to further improve and make itself an outstanding defense force [kang karpear] of the KCP, the Cambodian people and Democratic Cambodia. As an immediate task, it will constantly heighten revolutionary vigilance to oppose and exterminate enemies of all stripes threatening Democratic Cambodia, particularly the expansionist, annexationist Vietnamese aggressors and their partisans as well as the criminal Vietnamese shelling, strafing and sending spies and commandoes to spy on, subvert and kill our people and sabotage and destroy their property.

It is also determined to help our cooperative peasants quickly harvest rice and protect it, to help build Democratic Cambodia and make it strong and prosperous by leaps and bounds.

BRIEFS

IRRIGATION PROJECTS--Linking themselves with the frontline combatants, our youth and cooperative peasants in Chikreng district, Siem Reap sector, northern region, are building new irrigation projects including the Kravel dam-reservoir on the Chikreng river. The dam is 14 km long, 7 m wide at the top and 25 m wide at the bottom and contains enough water to irrigate 5,600 hectares at Veal Rohal Pruol, Veal Kravel, Veal Chikreng, Veal Srei Dek and Veal Suong. They are also building the Mkak dam-reservoir which stretches from Ta Ponhea commune to Tonle Thmat; it is 6 km long, 12 m wide at the top and 50 m wide at the bottom and can irrigate 4,000 hectares at Veal Pongro Kraom, Pongro Leu, Kouk Thlok Leu, Kouk Thlok Kraom, Kompong Kdei, Sangvaeuy and Lveng Russei. These two projects were begun in February and will be completed next May. [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK]

LAOS-VIETNAM FRIENDSHIP GROUP CALLS FOR CAMBODIA-SRV TALKS

BK211338Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1100 GMT 21 Feb 78 BK

[20 February statement issued by Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association on Cambodian-Vietnamese relations]

[Text] Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia are neighboring countries which have maintained good relations since ancient times. The three peoples of Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia have shared the same fate. Together they fought shoulder to shoulder against the aggression of the French imperialists and later the U.S. imperialists, finally together winning complete victory.

The militant solidarity between the Lao, Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples was a major factor in this victory. It also served as a bright example for the struggle movements of the people of the world for independence and peace. This militant solidarity between the peoples of the three nations has contributed to increasing the strength of the movements of struggle among the world's people for peace, independence, democracy and social progress.

However, it is regrettable that there has been a dispute between Vietnam and Cambodia, which is an undesirable development. This does not help the solidarity and fraternal relations between the Cambodian and Vietnamese peoples in building their countries in accordance with their respective lines.

In the face of this situation, the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association--which has the duty of joining with the Lao people throughout the country in strengthening solidarity and friendship with the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia--earnestly desires to see the dispute between Cambodia and Vietnam come to an end. The Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association also wishes to see the two countries--Vietnam and Cambodia--hold negotiations on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity in a spirit of mutual understanding with a view to restoring the solidarity and friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

This approach to settling the problem is in conformity with the aspirations and interests of the fraternal Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples. It also conforms to the aspiration and interests of the Lao people who have always wished to see the time-honored and good relations between the two fraternal countries of Vietnam and Cambodia restored, consolidated and developed with each passing day.

It is the view of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association that only through negotiations between representatives of Vietnam and Cambodia can the dispute between the two countries be brought to an end and can peace and friendship be restored, thus creating favorable conditions for building the two respective countries into prosperous and strong nations, thus contributing to the maintenance of peace and the revolutionary cause of the various nations of Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

Vientiane, 20 February 1978

[Signed] The Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association

TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

BK180940Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 February at the Ministry of Communications, Public Works and Transportation, a ceremony was held for the signing of an agreement on Soviet Government economic and technical assistance to the LPDR Government.

Signing the agreement on behalf of the Lao side was Sanan Souththichak, minister of communications, public works and transportation, and chairman of the Lao Committee for Cooperation with Socialist Countries; and on the Soviet side was Viktor Livyenko, vice chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries, and head of the Soviet economic delegation currently visiting Laos. Attending the ceremony were Outtama Chounlamani, vice minister of education, sports and religious affairs; Ourheuan Phounsavat, vice minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism; and a number of high-ranking cadres from various ministries concerned. Mitrofan Podolskiy, ambassador to Laos, and a number of senior members of the embassy staff were also present at the signing ceremony.

At the ceremony, Sanan Souththichak and Viktor Livyenko delivered speeches hailing and acclaiming the brilliant success in the signing of the agreement, which constitutes a new, effective symbol of cooperation between Laos and the USSR. At the same time, the two dignitaries also expressed hopes that the time-honored cooperation, friendship and solidarity between the parties and peoples of Laos and the USSR would last forever, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

At 1730 on the same day, Bojkov, economic counsellor of the USSR Embassy in Laos, hosted a reception at his office in honor of the visiting Soviet economic delegation. Attending the reception were Sanan Souththichak, some vice ministers, and a number of high ranking cadres of various ministries. Mitrofan Podolskiy and some senior embassy staff members and Soviet specialists were also at the reception, which proceeded in an atmosphere of intimacy and friendship.

Soviet Economic Delegation Departs

BK200910Y Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Vientiane, February 20 (KPL)--The Soviet economic delegation headed by Viktor Livyenko, vice chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries of the USSR, left Vientiane on February 18, concluding its official friendly visit to Laos. The delegation was seen off at Wattai Airport by Khamma Phomkong, vice minister of industry and trade, and other officials of Laos.

During its stay in Laos, the delegation was received by Nouhak Phoumsavan, vice premier and minister of finance. It held talks with the Lao Commission for Cooperation with Socialist Countries headed by its chairman Sanan Souththichak, who is also minister of communications, public works and transport. The delegation signed with the Lao side an agreement on economic cooperation between the two countries.

NEW ENVOYS TO USSR, THAILAND RECEIVE CREDENTIALS FROM SOUPHANOUVONG

BK191243Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Text] At 1900 on 17 February Sot Phetlasi, who has been appointed new Laos ambassador to the Soviet Union, received his credentials and took leave of President Souphanouvong. It was also reported that at 1900 on 16 February President Souphanouvong handed credentials to Vanthong Sengmouang, who has been appointed new Lao ambassador to Thailand.

President Souphanouvong took the occasion to give them advice and wish them every success in carrying out their duties.

POST OBJECTS TO RAMSEY CLARK REMARKS ON THAI TORTURE

BK200220Y Bangkok POST in English 20 Feb 78 BK

[Editorial: "Torture Charge Plainly Absurd"]

[Text] It is fortunate that Mr Robert Oakley, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, was here recently and could authoritatively refute the absurd charge by former U.S. attorney general Ramsey Clark that "in Thailand you can't go very far, without hearing reports of torture." Not only was Mr Oakley here but also Ms Patricia Derian, who has specific responsibility for human rights in the Carter administration. They saw for themselves the situation in our country, they spoke to people, they were given freedom to move anywhere and to examine conditions. That was why Mr Oakley could confidently speak up on behalf of Thailand.

Mr Clark, who has not taken the trouble to visit Thailand to see the situation for himself, has proved to be so gullible that one wonders how he could have ever become an attorney general, a position that requires a perceptive and objective mind.

What Mr Clark is doing is basically to bring about conditions in Thailand, which will turn this country into a second Vietnam, a place where no human rights are respected at all. He is behaving like those Vietnam war protesters who appeared interested in freedom and human rights in South Vietnam until it fell to the communists. Those protesters show no interest whatsoever today in the total loss of freedom and human rights there.

Thailand is far from being anywhere like South Vietnam prior to its fall. The Thai people feel free and are free. We don't want anyone like Mr Clark or any of the strange societies that have sprung up in the United States ostensibly to campaign for freedom but actually serving the purposes of those trying to suppress freedom.

The description, "sanctimonious hypocrisy," which Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew applied to those countries which only talk about helping refugees but letting them stay in large numbers in Thailand appears to be appropriate also for persons like Mr Ramsey Clark. Our government's handling of the problem of refugees of all political faiths demonstrates the value we place on human rights. Why don't the Ramsey Clarks remind themselves of what Jesus Christ said about trying to get the mote out of thine brother's eye while there is a beam in thine own eye?

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS TO CAMBODIA OVER ALLEGED KIDNAPINGS

Envoys Meet in Vientiane

BK171400Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK

[Excerpt] Bangkok, 17 Feb (AFP)--Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Wong Phonnikon today said Thailand's ambassador to Vientiane was "negotiating" with his Cambodian counterpart following the abduction of 310 Thai villagers by Cambodian troops over the past week.

Cambodian authorities were now informed of the incidents, Mr Wong said. The most violent incursion occurred in northeastern Ubon Ratchathani Province when, military sources said, 227 Thai villagers and 20 head of cattle were taken hostage.

The deputy foreign minister, formerly Thai ambassador to Laos, declined to reveal details of the negotiations. At the same time, Army Chief Gen Soem Na Nakhon affirmed that the Thai military was closely following up intelligence on the matter.

Deputy Foreign minister Wong Phonnikon's revelation clarified a local press report this morning which said that on Wednesday Foreign Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun protested to Cambodia through Laos and called on Cambodian Deputy Premier for Foreign Affairs Ieng Sary "to help put a stop to the border skirmishes which have flared up in the past week".

Officials: Ieng Sary 'Informed'

BK180118Y Bangkok POST in English 18 Feb 78 p 3 BK

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a report of the recent Thai-Cambodian border incidents to Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Ieng Sary in an attempt to prevent more skirmishes in the border. Secretary General of the National Security Council Air Vice Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday.

"It was not a protest," he emphasised.

The secretary general said that the National Security Council had been trying to analyse the motive behind the incidents since the Thai and Cambodian governments had already reached an agreement for the normalisation of relations between the two countries.

Air Vice Marshal Sitthi said the situation along the Thai-Cambodian border had not improved despite the agreement and to the contrary had even become worse in some areas, such as in Trat Province.

The National Security Council had filed every detail of the recent border incidents and submitted its findings to the Foreign Affairs Ministry, he said.

He added that the ministry in turn sent the report to Cambodian Deputy Premier Ieng Sary "so that he could take action towards the prevention of similar incidents in our common border."

Meanwhile, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Wong Phonnikon said yesterday that Foreign Affairs Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun "has informed" Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ieng Sary about the recent incidents in the Thai-Cambodian border, with the hope to put a stop on the border conflict as agreed by the two countries during Dr Uppadit's recent visit to Phnom Penh.

He said the note was not a protest but just to inform the Cambodian leader about the situation in the border.

Continued Abductions Reported

BK200230Y Bangkok POST in English 20 Feb 78 p 1 BK

[Text] Aranayaprathet--A band of Khmer Rouge and local insurgents raided a border village yesterday morning and abducted six villagers, including a school principal. Five of the villagers later managed to escape and fled back across the border into Thai territory, police reported last night. The abduction took place in Pank Khlongwan village in Tambon Khlong Samai in this district. Police said the raiders consisted of about 16 men.

Earlier, on Friday afternoon, a mixed band of Khmer Rouge and local terrorists struck across the border and kidnapped 17 villagers in Ban Kohat near Khao Lum. Eight of the villagers managed to escape in the evening. Meanwhile, in Chanthaburi, a police private and a defence volunteer were killed and three others seriously wounded when a border patrol unit and combined Khmer Rouge and local communists engaged in a 20-minute gunbattle Saturday morning.

Diplomatic Measures Supported

BK180158Y Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 18 Feb 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Khmer Incursions Naturally Ring a Pessimistic Note"]

[Text] Somehow Thailand had been lulled into complacency with the thought that once Foreign Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun went to Phnom Penh, the sporadic border skirmishes caused by the Khmer Rouge would halt. But despite his visit and his report that talks towards normalization of relations went off smoothly, the incursions by the Khmer Rouge did not ease up. In their unpredictable manner, they have been going on.

Under the circumstances, the best thing would be a diplomatic note from Mr Uppadit to his counterpart Mr Ieng Sary, and this also has been done but we doubt whether it will have much effect since even Mr Uppadit's visit and his discussion with Mr Sary regarding the Khmer Rouge forays did not produce the desired result. We must wonder whether Mr Sary really has any say in the matter at all.

In the light of Mr Uppadit's discussions held in Phnom Penh, the incursions by the Khmer Rouge are pointless and illogical, but we must also think the pitched battle that has been and is going on along the Cambodia-Vietnam border is even more illogical and more fratricidal. Hanoi should be wondering, just like Bangkok, why Indochina has been again plunged into "war."

There is one big difference, however. For over a month Vietnam has been regularly calling for negotiations without any preconditions. Last week Vietnam got so fed up with Cambodia's systematic rejection of her invitation to discussions that Hanoi asked Phnom Penh to come up with her own suggestions for ending the fighting along the border.

From this point of view, Thailand has fared better. After numerous calls for talks made both by Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan and Foreign Minister Uppadit, Phnom Penh did respond and invited Mr Uppadit to Phnom Penh. Possibly it was wrong of us to expect that the discussions would end the border skirmishes. We can only be thankful that these have not been escalated by the Khmer Rouge to the extent of the fighting on Cambodia's eastern border.

The second point we must also start thinking about is whether Cambodia, despite what was told Mr Uppadit, is really interested in normalizing relations with Thailand, by which we mean the exchange of diplomatic missions. Such an agreement was reached between Vietnam and Thailand when Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh was here and there was prompt implementation by Hanoi and four Vietnamese diplomats are here.

Possibly we should wait until the exchange of diplomatic missions takes place--none can predict when that will happen--so that we will have direct lines of communication with Phnom Penh. But we are rather pessimistic and doubt if we can expect the sporadic border incursions when the fighting along the eastern border of Cambodia is still going on despite the fact that both Vietnam and Cambodia share the same ideology. [sentence as published] Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry has chosen the right line of using diplomatic efforts to halt pointless skirmishes.

Military Retaliation Urged

BK191236Y Bangkok SIANG PUANGCHON in Thai 19 Feb 78 p 3 BK

[Editorial: "Cambodia Refuses To Stop"]

[Text] The situation along the Thai-Cambodian border continues to be worrisome and serious as a result of the recent, often-repeated armed operations by Khmer Rouge forces inside Thai territory. Such armed operations have damaged Thai people's property and have caused the deaths of Thai citizens. Moreover, on several occasions many Thai people have been herded into Cambodian territory by the Khmer Rouge forces. This border problem has to be urgently tackled and prevented from recurring.

The chronic border problem is a regrettable thing. Border skirmishes have occurred virtually every day since the Khmer Rouge came to power 3 years ago. Time and again Thai people along the border have lost their lives in the midst of calls for peace from both Thailand and Cambodia and the hopes of Thai officials that the restoration of good relations with Cambodia would help deter the undesirable border conflict have proved fruitless.

The Thai attempt to solve the border conflict through diplomacy and official bans against inflammatory reports about the killing of fellow Thai people by Cambodian forces. The pretext that such comments might jeopardize diplomatic efforts can mildly be termed as wrong. It means the continued sacrifice of things one loves without a guaranteed response from Phnom Penh. To put it bluntly, our policy is one of awe of Cambodia, marked by our refusal to take drastic action to end, once and for all, the situation at the border.

The possibility of armed retaliation against Cambodian border forays should be seriously considered; otherwise, those forays will put Thailand at a disadvantage at the negotiating table and at the actual clash sites as time wears on. Cambodian aggression at the Vietnamese border has already precipitated the current Cambodian-Vietnamese fighting.

The Thai people are tired of the repeated warnings the government has issued following Cambodian intrusions. They feel that the words "serious retaliation" are just words to cover up serious inefficiency in formulating national defense plans. In fact, those words sound like an effort to postpone what needs to be done until another incident occurs, at which time the same words will again be uttered. If the border problem is not tackled immediately and if a new policy line is not implemented, it is possible that soon we will not have anyone to listen to our national anthem.

FIRST COUNSELOR TO VIETNAM REPORTEDLY NAMED

BK210155Y Bangkok POST in English 21 Feb 78 p 1 BK

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has appointed Passport Division chief Chalo Yingcharoen the first counsellor to the Royal Thai Embassy in Hanoi, an informed source said yesterday.

Mr Chalo and his five-man staff are expected to leave for the Vietnamese capital sometime this week. The team will be staying at a hotel until it finds an appropriate site for the new embassy.

Before the appointment, the Passport Division chief had been the third secretary to the Thai Embassy in Switzerland.

LAO AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE ARRIVES IN BANGKOK

BK210751Y Bangkok WORLD in English 21 Feb 78 p 3 BK

[Text] Lao Ambassador-Designate Vanthong Sengmouang arrived in Bangkok on Saturday [18 February] to take up his position as ambassador to Thailand, informed sources said today. The Lao ambassador met Deputy Foreign Minister Wong Phonnikon.

620 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES TO LEAVE FOR THIRD COUNTRIES

BK210201Y Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 21 Feb 78 p 3 BK

[Text] Nong Khai--A group of 620 refugees in various camps in this northeastern province will leave for third countries tomorrow. Governor Chamnan Photchana said the refugees, most of them Lao, will also include 20 Thai Dam and 33 Meo. Two of them are Col Khamlet and Maj Nouan, two former Lao soldiers arrested in Ubon Ratchathani on charges of setting up a political party called "Samakkhi Tham." They will be sent to various countries, including Switzerland, Canada, Australia, France, the United States and Hong Kong.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER THANIN NAMED TO JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

BK191448Y Bangkok POST in English 18 Feb 78 p 1 BK

[Excerpt] Eight active and retired judges, including former Prime Minister Thanin Kraiwichian, were elected yesterday to the 8-man juridical committee, the top juridical board responsible for the transfer and appointment of judges throughout the country.

EXPLOSION DESTROYS BANGKOK POLICE ORDNANCE DEPOT

BK210630Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 21 Feb 78 BK

[Text] At 0545 [2245 GMT] today a bomb exploded at the depot where explosives were kept in the compound of the police quartermaster division on Setsiri Road, Bangkok. The explosion destroyed the depot building which was 8 meters wide and 10 meters long. The office building of the police quartermaster division was also slightly damaged.

Pol Lt Gen Chumphon Lohachala, acting director general of the Police Department, went to inspect the damage caused by the explosion and has appointed a committee to investigate the incident chaired by Lt Gen Thawin Chanthasiharat, his assistant.

The explosives at the depot were material evidence confiscated from criminals throughout the country and sent to the police quartermaster division to be examined by division specialists.

The police authority of Dusit district have closed Setsiri and Thoetdamri roads for public safety.

BRIEFS

MORE FLUORITE TO USSR--The Soviet Union intends to buy more Thai fluorite this year, the Soviet ambassador to Bangkok, Mr Boris I. Ilichev, informed Commerce Minister Nam Phunwatthu over the weekend. Mr Nam commented that should the USSR buy more Thai fluorite, it would help to boost the Thai fluorite trade and the mining industry here. However, he declined to say the amount of fluorite required by the USSR this year. The Soviet Union is a major buyer of Thai fluorite, having purchased some 29,200 tons worth 23.6 million baht in the first half of last year. [Bangkok POST in English 7 Feb 78 p 13 BK]

AMBASSADOR TO UN RETURNS TO HANOI

OW171443Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] On instructions from the SRV Government, Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, head of the SRV permanent mission to the United Nations, returned to Hanoi on 17 February after his normal activities at the United Nations had been illegally hampered by the U.S. Government. Welcoming Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi at the airport were Comrades Nguyen Co Thach and Phan Hien, deputy foreign ministers, and many other cadres of the Foreign Ministry.

Received by Pham Van Dong

OW181025Y Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] On Saturday, Premier Pham Van Dong received Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, representative of the SRV to the United Nations. Dinh Ba Thi has just returned to Hanoi on order from the SRV Government after the U.S. Government illegally obstructed his normal activities. Deputy Foreign Minister Phan Hien was present at the reception. Mr Dinh Ba Thi reported to Premier Pham Van Dong on the work of the Vietnamese representation at the United Nations. He said that head delegates from many countries and a broad section of progressive public opinion in the United States and in the world express their indignation at the U.S. government's illegal act. They also voiced sympathy with the 4 February 1978 statement of the SRV Foreign Ministry in connection with Washington's move. Premier Pham Van Dong commended Mr Dinh Ba Thi and other members of the Vietnamese representation to the United Nations for their effective work there.

Received by Nguyen Duy Trinh

BK191116Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On 19 February Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh received Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, head of the SRV permanent representation to the United Nations, who returned to the country recently. Also on hand was Vice Foreign Minister Phan Hien. Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi informed Vice Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh of the illegal acts of the U.S. Government in hindering the normal activities of the head of the SRV permanent representation to the United Nations. Vice Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh highly valued the activities of our UN mission. The vice premier also took this opportunity to thank the delegations of various countries to the United Nations and broad sections of the world public, including the progressive people in the United States, for warmly supporting the correct stand of the SRV on this issue.

NHAN DAN COMMENTARY SCORES U.S. EXPULSION OF ENVOY

OW201925Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[NHAN DAN 20 February commentary: "A Vengeful U.S. Imperialist-Type Trick"]

[Text] Broad segments of world public opinion are severely criticizing the U.S. administration for fabricating evidence with which to slander our diplomats and use as an excuse to expel our country's chief delegate to the United Nations.

This is a mean and cowardly case of revenge sought by the United States for its defeats in Vietnam and its shame in failing to prevent our country from becoming a permanent UN member. At a recent session, the General Assembly reserved warm applause for our country.

This is truly U.S. imperialist-type revenge. Late in January the U.S. Government revealed a so-called espionage case against the United States. It arrested, detained and interrogated a number of Americans and Vietnamese residents in the United States and took advantage of this opportunity, to slander a number of SRV diplomats as coconspirators in this matter. Following this, the U.S. State Department ballyhooed that Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, chief of our country's permanent delegation to the UN, had abused the special privileges of residence in the United States.

It used Article 138 of a 1947 UN agreement as a basis for using all vile means possible to obstruct the normal activities of our ambassador. This offending the permanent delegation of a UN member country is an unprecedented and vile act and is obviously illegal. More seriously, this illegal act was aimed at the chief of the permanent delegation of the SRV, a country which has gained independence and freedom after successively defeating the imperialist aggressors, including the Americans, and gaining its rightful seat in the UN.

This vile act also exposed many of the perfidious designs of the United States. This act proves, first of all, that the United States is still pursuing a hostile policy toward Vietnam. The Carter administration has many times declared that it wished to "forget the past," to "look toward the future," and "wanted to establish normal relations with Vietnam." This is sheer hypocrisy. In fact, while the United Nations adopts resolutions calling on all countries to aid Vietnam's reconstruction, the United States deliberately shirks its obligation to contribute to healing the wounds of war it caused to Vietnam.

Moreover, it has flung its doors wide open to criminals of the puppet administration and army who fled Vietnam to continue propaganda campaigns which distort the peaceful construction in Vietnam. The U.S. action against our UN mission chief is a new offense against our government and people. It doubtlessly will prejudice the normalization of relations between the two countries.

The United States failed miserably to prevent Vietnam's admission to the United Nations. Since becoming a member of this organization, Vietnam has made positive contributions to the common struggle of the world forces of peace, democracy and progress. From the UN rostrum, Vietnam's representative has many times moved or backed draft resolutions aimed at checking the sinister schemes of the U.S.-led imperialist forces and laying bare old and new colonialism, especially U.S. neocolonialism. The Carter administration's action against our country's UN mission chief reflects its bitterness at Vietnam's rising position and role in the international arena.

At the same time, the U.S. administration is annoyed by the growing influence of patriotic Vietnamese residents' organizations, including those in the United States. Patriotic overseas Vietnamese have always respected the laws of the countries they live in. By making trumped-up charges against a number of Vietnamese residents, the U.S. administration obviously wants to lower the prestige of organizations of patriotic Vietnamese residents now working for national reconstruction.

Moreover, through this case, the United States has created a dangerous precedent which threatens the normal activities of other UN member nations. It not only aims to restrict criticism against the United States at the United Nations, but also to adversely affect the anti-U.S. movement in the world.

Vietnam has severely criticized this illegal U.S. act. On 4 February our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement vehemently protesting the U.S. Government's abuse of the right of the host country to seriously hamper the normal activities of a UN member country. Our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs demanded that the U.S. Government immediately end all acts offensive to the Vietnamese Government and people and insure the security and conditions for the normal activities of the members of the permanent SRV mission to the United Nations.

Meanwhile, because the U.S. Government had deliberately obstructed the normal activities of the ambassador and chief of our permanent mission, our government decided to recall him.

We know that the U.S. administration's slanderous trick against our diplomats can in no way decrease Vietnam's influence in the world arena. On the contrary, this slanderous U.S. attitude is a reminder to many countries to always bear in mind that the U.S. imperialists are the organizers of intelligence activities everywhere, are ready to intervene in other countries' internal affairs and are the greatest arms dealers and the greatest subverters.

The United States is being condemned by progressive public opinion in many countries and the hypocrisy of the U.S. imperialists has been exposed even more clearly. As proof of this, many delegations to the United Nations have shown displeasure and have criticized the United States, and have reaffirmed their friendly regard for our people. This is evidenced by the fact that on 12 February a great number of representatives of 26 progressive democratic and social organizations in the United States staged a demonstration in downtown New York to protest the U.S. authorities' illegal act.

The slanderous U.S. attitude toward our chief permanent delegate to the United Nations makes it clear that many in U.S. ruling circles have not yet learned the necessary lessons from their defeats and mistakes in Vietnam.

COMMENTARY DEMANDS U.S. INSURE SECURITY OF SRV UN MISSION

OW181115Y Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Three days after the U.S. Government's accusation of anti-U.S. espionage, they took the opportunity to slander a number of diplomatic officials of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, naming them as coconspirators in so-called espionage and requesting that Vietnam's representation to the UN leave the United States.

In a statement made on 4 February, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry flatly rejected the slanderous charge, saying that Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, like other members of the Vietnamese permanent representation to the UN, was in no way involved in the activities fabricated by the U.S. authorities.

The U.S. Government's action is unprecedented in the history of the United Nations. It is not only a gross offense against the government and people of Vietnam but also creates a precedent jeopardizing the normal activities of other members of the UN. U.S. behavior through the Carter administration's oft-repeated claim that it "looks to the future" and "desires a normalization of relations" with Vietnam are mere words.

In view of the U.S. Government's illegal obstruction to the normal activities of Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi, the Vietnamese Government has instructed the ambassador to return to Vietnam.

World public opinion has condemned the U.S. for their action. Socialist and nonaligned countries at the UN have expressed solidarity with Vietnamese Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi in the face of the slanderous charge made by the United States. The U.S. move was also condemned at a meeting of the committee in charge of the relations between the United Nations and the host country. Cuban Ambassador to the UN Ricardo Alarcon on 3 February said: The charge made by the U.S. is a blatant provocation against the Vietnamese people, desiring to discredit the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Only 1 month ago, the American newspaper New York TIMES remarked that the effective and active activities of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has been a prominent feature of recent UN deliberations.

On 12 February, representatives of 26 progressive organizations in the United States held a demonstration in downtown New York against the U.S. slander of Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi. The demonstration is strong proof of public outcry against dirty plots of the U.S. administration against the Vietnamese people who had heroically fought against U.S. aggression for national liberation.

Once again, the Vietnamese people vehemently criticize the U.S. Government for abusing its right as a host country to create serious obstacles to the normal activities of a member country of the UN. We demand that the U.S. Government not repeat this act and that it must insure security and conditions for the normal activities of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's permanent representation to the UN.

RADIO CONTINUES TO SCORE CAMBODIA FOR REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE

17 February Commentary

OW171157Y Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary: "Kampuchea's Obstinate Refusal To Negotiate on Relations Between Vietnam and Kampuchea"]

[Text] The SRV Government's three-point peace proposal of 5 February has received worldwide acclaim. People find it further eloquent proof of Vietnam's good will and a fine, equal and reasonable basis for a peaceful and friendly settlement of the Vietnam-Kampuchea border issue. A solution on such a basis conforms with the interests and aspirations of the two peoples and the interests of peace and security in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world. However, it is regrettable that Kampuchea has only reacted negatively. It claimed that Vietnam's latest proposal contains nothing new and even considered it a threat.

Ordinary people cannot understand Kampuchea's brazen obstinacy. Isn't the proposal that both armies withdraw 5 km into their respective territory new? Is Vietnam's proposal that a treaty of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity be signed a threat when Vietnam proposes that hostility ceases

and that each party does not interfere in the internal affairs of the other and refrains from subversive activities against the other; treats each other on equal footing; and lives in peace and friendship in a good neighborly relationship?

Can Vietnam be pretending to want the negotiations, as the Kampuchean authorities claim, when the Vietnamese Government proposes that the two sides sign a treaty on the border question on the basis of respect for each other's territorial sovereignty within the existing border? Can one say that Vietnam's proposal for an international guarantee and supervision is not new?

The Kampuchean authorities not only obstinately refuse negotiations but continue to send armed forces to encroach on Vietnamese territory, perpetrating new crimes against the Vietnamese people. Radio Phnom Penh continues to report the old allegations about Vietnam's aggression and Vietnam forces Kampuchea to join an Indochinese federation. To convince the people of the truth of their slanderous charges, the Kampuchean authorities have forced Vietnamese people to pose as captured soldiers and made Kampucheans prepare allegations against Vietnam.

Kampuchea's response to Vietnam's earnest proposal exposes the authorities' arrogance. If Kampuchean denunciations of Vietnam are true, why don't they accept Vietnam's proposal for an end to all aggression, subversion and interference in each other's internal affairs? Is it true that the story of an outside threat has been engineered to cover up contradictions within Kampuchea and repress opponents?

Many recent reports of life within present-day Kampuchea reflect a society even worse than the Middle Ages. Kampuchean refugees are very definite about the brutal oppression of the Kampuchean authorities. Who are Kampuchean authorities serving? Why are they fanning the flames of hostility toward the Vietnamese people who suffered immeasurably in the struggle against old and new colonialism? What do they hope to achieve by opposing communism?

Surely genuine communists and the people of Kampuchea will never support these ambitions. Vietnam's self-restraint, good will and desire to reserve the solidarity and friendship between the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea will ultimately reveal the true nature of Kampuchean deception and inhumanity.

20 February Commentary

OW201157Y Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary: "The Kampuchean Authorities Only Want War"]

[Text] The conflict caused by the Kampuchean authorities with Vietnam has continued for almost 3 years. Much Vietnamese blood has been shed. So has the blood of Kampucheans sent by their authorities to fight against Vietnam. And the Kampuchean people have suffered much under the barbaric slave regime which the Kampuchean authorities want to impose on the people to serve their reckless, hostile policy against Vietnam.

This heart-rending situation only satisfies the enemy of the two nations. The enemy has poured more fuel onto the flames of conflict, backed Phnom Penh in its military attacks as well as its slander campaign against Vietnam. These imperialist and international reactionaries are rancorous at Vietnam's rising international prestige and her resolute struggle for the triumph of Marxist-Leninism and genuine proletarian internationalism and against the imperialists and opportunists of all kinds.

Progressive mankind who has stood by the side of the peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos in their anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation has again spoken out for the friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea. Public opinion supports Vietnam's good will and just stand. It demands that the Kampuchean authorities enter [into] negotiations with Vietnam because this is the only correct way to settle the conflicts in the interests of the two peoples and of the world's revolution.

Public opinion believes that the three-point proposal made by the SRV Government on 5 February is a basis for a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam-Kampuchea border issue. The first point of this proposal says that an immediate end shall be put to all hostile military activities in the border region. This is an urgent demand by broad world public opinion. An end to the conflict is indispensable to stabilizing and normalizing the border situation and creates conditions for a solution to be reached.

To prevent further conflicts in future, the Vietnamese Government also proposed that the armed forces of each party shall be stationed within their respective territory 5 km from the border. So the armed forces of each party will be separated by a 10 km distance, which prevents further conflicts. This is fair and logical.

The Kampuchean authorities have slanderously charged Vietnam with aggression and encroachments on Kampuchean territory. Let them respond to Vietnam's proposal and there will be no fear of aggression or encroachment on either side. It's very regrettable, however, that the Kampuchean authorities have rejected Vietnam's proposal. Obviously, they do not want the border conflict to be over, but to be continuing.

Since 5 February, the Kampuchean armed forces have stepped up military attacks on Vietnamese territory. This fact exposes Phnom Penh's slanderous charge against Vietnam as well as its lip service to peace and friendship.

Public opinion has every reason to ask: What do the Kampuchean authorities want and where will they go to in this continued conflict? Probably they want to sidetrack the Kampuchean people from their struggle against their brutal regime and to repress the genuine Kampuchean revolutionaries. This is no easy job for the Kampuchean authorities, because by so doing their true colors will be further exposed and more resolute popular struggle will be in store for them.

Do the Kampuchean authorities want to devote themselves to serving international imperialists and reactionaries who nurture great ambitions in Southeast Asia? This is not easy either, because in the past all the powerful forces and all the treacherous designs of the imperialists were defeated or fought off by the Vietnamese people.

At present, after their victory, Vietnam has become more powerful than ever, and its international prestige has been growing. The Kampuchean authorities must know that Vietnam is the conscience of the times. The followers of extremist, narrow nationalism should be awakened to their wrong path. The only way for them to get out of their wrong path is to respond to the three-point proposal expounded in the 5 February statement of the SRV Government.

The Kampuchean authorities should respond to this proposal as soon as possible in the interests of the people of Vietnam, the Kampuchean people and peace in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

CONTINUED FOREIGN SUPPORT REPORTED FOR SRV BORDER STAND

Mass Organizations, Communist Papers

OW171533Y Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Feb (VNA)--The Italy-Vietnam Committee recently released a statement expressing its desire to see early peaceful negotiations opened between Vietnam and Kampuchea as proposed by the Vietnamese Government.

The Indian Women's Union issued a statement fully supporting the 5 February, 1978 statement of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on relations with Kampuchea and calling on all members of the union to press for prompt negotiations between Vietnam and Kampuchea.

In a letter to the president of the Vietnam General Federation of Trade Unions, K.G. Srivastava, general secretary of the All-India Trade Union Congress, voiced support for the stand of the Vietnamese Government and disapproval for Kampuchea's attitude and actions. "We hope that the conflict will promptly be settled by negotiations as soon as possible," he said.

The papers IZVESTIYA (Soviet Union) and RUDE PRAVO (Czechoslovakia) warmly hailed Vietnam's stand on the border issue with Kampuchea and condemned the Kampuchean authorities' stubborn refusal to respond to Vietnam's proposal for peaceful negotiations and to stop provoking the Vietnamese people and violating their territory.

West Europe Groups, Papers

OW191039Y Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Feb (VNA)--A leading official of Luxembourg said his government considers that Vietnam's proposals for a peaceful settlement of the border issue with Kampuchea are entirely fair and reasonable and conform to the interests of both nations. On behalf of the Luxembourg Government, Charles Reichling, general secretary of the Foreign Ministry of Luxembourg, on February 17 told Vietnamese Ambassador Vo Van Sung:

"The Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg supports the proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam made on 5 February to the Phnom Penh Government for an appropriate settlement so as to put an end to the conflict in the border areas between the two countries."

The World Federation of Trade Unions on 15 February issued a statement saying: "The interests of both countries (Vietnam and Kampuchea) faced with the tasks of restoration require that the conflict be solved through peaceful negotiations proceeding from the respect for independence, territorial integrity, friendship and solidarity between the working people of the two countries as proposed by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam."

The France-Vietnam Friendship Association said in a statement that it "welcomes the new possibilities expounded in the recent Vietnamese proposals: immediate cessation of all military activities and meeting between the two sides, international guarantee and supervision." It voiced the hope that the Kampuchean authorities will soon respond to Vietnam's proposals because these are a correct basis for the discussion and settlement of problems in the relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea.

The leading committee of the Peace League of the Federal Republic of Germany has warmly welcomed the proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for immediate cessation of military actions in the border areas, prompt negotiations between the two countries and signing of a treaty providing for respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and agreement on a form of international guarantee and supervision. This support was expressed in a communique released at a conference held by the league to hear Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Manh Cam speak about the Vietnam-Kampuchea border question and the Vietnamese Government's 5 February statement.

The communique pointed out: "The conference of the leading committee of the Peace League of the Federal Republic of Germany unanimously holds that in the interests of the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples as well as of peace in that area, the settlement of the Vietnam-Kampuchea border question through negotiations is urgent."

UNITA, central newspaper of the Communist Party of Italy, welcomes the fair and reasonable three-point proposal made in the 5 February 1978 statement of the Vietnamese Government on the relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea. The paper said in a commentary that so far the Kampuchean side has refused Vietnam's proposals and continues to slander Vietnam.

The Mexican paper EL SOL DE MEXICO said in a commentary on February 11: "One can ask where Kampuchea will go and what it wants in refusing to respond to Vietnam's proposals. It seems that the Kampuchean authorities want to persist in the conflict with Vietnam more than to find a solution." After pointing out that the Kampuchean authorities' actions only benefit the imperialists, the paper expressed the hope that the Kampuchean side will start early negotiations with Vietnam.

Luxembourg, Czechoslovak, Singapore Opinion

OW201545Y Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 20 Feb (VNA)--"The Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Luxembourg holds that the three-point proposal of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam expounded in the 5 February 1978 statement is very fair and reasonable."

So said a statement recently handed over to Vietnamese Ambassador Vo Van Sung on 17 February by Rene Urbary, chairman, and Aloyse Bisdorff, Political Bureau member, of the Communist Party of Luxembourg Executive Committee. The statement called on the Kampuchean side to respond to Vietnam's proposal for negotiations. The immediate and future interests, not only of the two nations, but also of all progressive mankind, demand a settlement by negotiations, the statement said.

The Vietnam General Federation of Trade Unions has received a letter from its counterpart in Czechoslovakia voicing support to the 5 February 1978 statement of the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The letter pointed out: "The Czechoslovak trade union organisations follow with concern and are indignant at the Kampuchean armed forces' encroachment upon the territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. On behalf of 6.5 million members of the revolutionary trade union movement, the Czechoslovak Central Council of Trade Unions fully supports the stand of the Government of the SRV and every peaceful solution of conflicts between the two countries."

The Singapore paper STRAITS TIMES said in a recent issue: "The proposal of the Government of the SRV for a settlement of the border conflict with Kampuchea is a peaceful proposal. It proves the clearheadedness of the SRV leaders, which is different from the Phnom Penh side which has so far rejected every proposal for negotiations between the two sides."

Communist Press, Mass Organizations

BK210658Y [Editorial Report BK] Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese continues to report favorable comments of world press and organizations on the SRV Government's 5 February statement on the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue.

In its 0400 GMT newscast on 15 February, the radio carries a half-minute report on a comment by the Czechoslovak paper RUDE PRAVO on 14 February, which says: "The SRV Government's 5 February statement on the settlement of problems related to the relations between Vietnam and Cambodia is further evidence of Vietnam's efforts to seek a peaceful solution with Cambodia. But Cambodia has responded to all of the proposals of Vietnam with acts of aggression and slander campaigns. It is hoped that Cambodia will not abuse Vietnam's patience, because settling the border issue will not only benefit the two countries, but will contribute to improving the international atmosphere in Southeast Asia."

On 17 February at 0530 GMT the radio carries a half-minute report on an article published in the Soviet paper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 15 February "condemning the Cambodian authorities for conducting a hostile campaign against the SRV." According to the radio, the paper points out: "World public opinion approves and supports the SRV Government's 5 February statement. But the Cambodian authorities have again rejected the SRV's correct proposals, thus showing once again that they are not willing to solve this issue by peaceful means. The Phnom Penh authorities' actions only benefit the imperialist forces and international reactionaries."

In its 0400 GMT newscast on 17 February, the radio carries a 5-minute report saying that "the presidium of the nationwide Italian committee in support of Vietnam recently issued a statement pointing out that on behalf of democratic forces and millions of Italian workers, the Italian committee in support of Vietnam expresses its earnest hope that reason will triumph and that the peaceful negotiations which Vietnam has proposed many times will be promptly conducted."

The report goes on: "On 9 February, the Mexico-based left-wing Chilean political committee, which is composed of many parties and which have rallied Chilean revolutionary forces in Mexico, issued a statement demanding that the Cambodian authorities quickly answer the SRV Government's proposals mentioned in its 5 February statement. The statement stressed: Vietnam's three-point proposal was a clear manifestation of its peaceful, positive and practical stand and was designed to arrive at an agreement between Vietnam and Cambodia whose peoples recently sacrificed their own blood to consolidate their militant solidarity and fraternal friendship."

The report continues: "Recently, the Indian Women's Union Secretariat issued a press statement fully supporting the SRV Government's 5 February statement on the relations between Vietnam and Cambodia and calling on all chapters in all states, as well as women throughout the country, to respond to a movement to actively urge the holding of negotiations between Vietnam and Cambodia."

"In a letter to the chairman of the Vietnam General Federation of Trade Unions, Mr. Srivastava, secretary general of the Indian trade unions, said: We support the Vietnamese Government's stand and do not approve of Cambodia's attitude and acts. We hope that the conflict will be solved through negotiations as soon as possible."

The report continues: "The Soviet paper IZVESTIYA on 15 February carried an article saying that anyone who is interested in the cause of peace fully approves the SRV Government's peaceful measures and considers the peaceful negotiations proposed by Vietnam as the only reasonable solution to the problems involved in the relations between the two countries."

At 0400 GMT on 18 February the radio again quotes the Czechoslovak paper RUDE PRAVO of 15 February as saying that "Cambodia's refusal to respond to Vietnam's correct proposals once again shows that the Cambodian authorities are unwilling to solve the issue by peaceful means and are stubbornly continuing provocative acts against Vietnam."

Another report in the same newscast says that "the paper NIDAL ASH-SHA'B, organ of the Syrian Communist Party, in an issue early in February, carried a commentary pointing out: The Vietnam-Cambodia border conflict is continuing because the Cambodian authorities have stubbornly refused to answer Vietnam's proposals by conducting direct negotiations between the two sides in order to solve the remaining problems by peaceful means. The Cambodian authorities' policy is entirely consistent with the interests of the socialist countries, of the national liberation movement and of the cause of peace in Asia and the rest of the world. This policy only benefits the imperialists and reactionaries."

NHAN DAN COMMENTS ON U.S. COAL MINERS STRIKE

BK181712Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The general labor strike of 180,000 workers at 3,000 coal mines in 22 states of the United States, including the mountainous eastern and midwest regions, which erupted on 6 December 1977, is still continuing. In the history of the miners' struggle, this is the largest and longest general strike since the establishment of the United Mine Workers of America 88 years ago. Commenting on this issue, today's NHAN DAN says:

The notable feature in this labor strike is the attitude of the administration. President Carter has talked a great deal about human rights, but right in the United States and especially in this labor strike, many worker activists have been brutally oppressed and terrorized. So far, two workers have been fatally shot by the police and many others have been arrested. Fierce fights have broken out between worker activists and the police forces sent in to carry out repressive operations.

The U.S. financial circles have begun to feel shaken because of the resolute struggle of the coal miners and the detrimental chain-reaction effects of the strike on the economy, which has made U.S. coal output drop by about 80 percent.

This strike takes place just when the United States is experiencing a cold winter with many violent blizzards and when many coal reserves are almost empty. The resolute struggle of the coal miners has not only upset President Carter's energy program but it has also exposed many shortcomings of the U.S. administration and testified to the vulnerability of its economic and financial plans. The White House has acted as a go-between in negotiations but it remains partial, paying attention to pleasing the employers rather than to the interests of the workers.

NHAN DAN stresses: The struggle is raging on. The year 1978 began with the successful labor strike of 43,000 Lockheed Aircraft Company workers. January saw the eruption of the first labor strike in the past 20 years by 8,000 workers at the McDonnell-Douglas Aerospace Corporation.

The on-going labor strike of 180,000 coal miners is urging millions of other U.S. workers to act for their right to a decent life as serious class and social contradictions exist in the United States.

DELEGATION DEPARTS TO ATTEND SOVIET ARMY DAY

OW181523Y Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Feb (VNA)--A delegation of the Vietnam People's Army left here today to attend the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy Day in Moscow. The delegation is led by Senior Lt Gen Tran Van Tra, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, deputy chief of the General Staff, commander and political commissar of the Seventh Military Zone.

It was seen off by Senior Lt Gen Hoang Van Thai, member of the VCP Central Committee, vice minister of national defence; Lt Gen Vuong Thua Vu, deputy chief of the General Staff; Maj Gen Dang Vu Hiep, deputy head of the General Political Department and many other high-ranking officers. Col N. Tsarkov, military attache of the Soviet Embassy here, was present.

Arrives in Moscow

OW191555Y Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Feb (VNA)--The delegation of the Vietnam People's Army led by Senior Lt Gen Tran Van Tra, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, deputy chief of the General Staff, commander and political commissar of the Seventh Military Zone, arrived in Moscow yesterday to attend the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy Day.

It was welcomed at the airport by Col Gen A.V. Volkov, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Soviet armed forces, Lt Gen B.I. Kuznetsov, acting commander of the Moscow Military District, and mother high-ranking Soviet officers. Nguyen Huu Khieu, Vietnamese ambassador to the Soviet Union, was present.

POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN HANOI

OW171543Y Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Feb (VNA)--Emil Wojtaszek, member of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party and foreign minister of the Polish People's Republic, arrived here today on a friendly visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh.

He was welcomed at the airport by Nguyen Duy Trinh, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, vice premier and minister for foreign affairs; Hoang Van Loi, vice minister for foreign affairs; and Vu Quoc Uy, acting director of the Vietnam Commission for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. Ambassador Jozef Puta and other officials of the Polish Embassy were present at the airport.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh gave a banquet this evening in honour of the Polish foreign minister and his party.

17 February Dinner Speeches

LD172204Y Warsaw PAP in English 2116 GMT 17 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Feb (PAP)--The Polish minister of foreign affairs, Emil Wojtaszek, arrived today in Hanoi on an official visit of friendship to Vietnam at the invitation of Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Nguyen Duy Trinh.

Today both ministers started preliminary talks. In the evening the minister of foreign affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam entertained Minister Emil Wojtaszek to dinner.

In a speech delivered during the dinner, Nguyen Duy Trinh stressed that both the Vietnamese and the Polish nations were linked by bonds of fraternal friendship for a long time now and by the struggle for a common idea, communism. He also recalled valuable all-round assistance that the party, government and the brotherly Polish nation rendered the Vietnamese nation and paid attention to the role Poland played as a member of international commissions dealing with the Vietnamese issue.

Next, the Polish minister of foreign affairs, Emil Wojtaszek, delivered a speech. He stressed, among other things, the unprecedented heroism displayed by the Vietnamese nation during the struggle against colonialism and imperialism which had been crowned with the formation of united Vietnam. The speaker said that the efforts and successes that Vietnam achieved in the days of peace in the process of building the socialist society, arouse genuine admiration among the Polish people. Poland and Vietnam, said Minister Emil Wojtaszek, are linked by bonds of fraternal friendship and cooperation, traditions of a struggle for freedom and independence and ideological community based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and the proletarian internationalism. This manifested in the attitude of both countries and parties towards key issues of the international communist and workers' movement and present-day international problems.

Minister Emil Wojtaszek stressed that the socialist countries, led by the Soviet Union, form a leading force in a world-wide political strivings, in a progressive development of mankind. The minister also stressed the importance of the growing prestige of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the international arena and expressed esteem for Vietnam's numerous peace initiatives in South Asian region. Poland, said Minister Emil Wojtaszek, supports the just standpoint of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam towards the question of the peaceful settlement of relations with Cambodia in line with the Vietnamese declaration of 5 February this year.

ALTANGEREL-LED MONGOLIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN HANOI

OW171527Y Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Feb (VNA)--A delegation of Ulaanbaatar led by B.O. Altangerel, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia and first secretary of the Ulaanbaatar party committee, arrived here today at the invitation of the Hanoi party committee.

The Mongolian delegation was greeted at the airport by Le Van Luong, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and secretary of the Hanoi party committee; Tran Vy, alternate member of the party Central Committee, deputy secretary of the Hanoi party committee and chairman of the Hanoi people's committee; Tran Danh Tuyen, deputy director of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Party Central Committee; Tran Sam and Nguyen Dong, deputy secretaries of the Hanoi party committee; Nguyen Dinh Hiep, vice chairman of the Hanoi people's committee; Tran Van Thanh, acting director of the First Department for Asia of the Foreign Ministry; and others.

Also present at the airport were Ambassador D. Tserendorj and many staff members of the Mongolian Embassy here.

Lays Wreath, Holds Talks

OW181537Y Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Feb (VNA)--The delegation of Ulaanbaatar led by B.O. Altangerel, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia and first secretary of Ulaanbaatar's party committee, this morning laid a wreath at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and visited the late president's house. It was accompanied by Tran Sam, deputy secretary of the Hanoi party committee; Bui Xuan Loc, member and staff director of Hanoi's party committee; and Mongolian Ambassador D. Tserendorj.

On the same day, the Hanoi party committee held talks with the Ulaanbaatar delegation. Present at the talks on the Vietnamese side were Le Van Luong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the VCP, secretary of Hanoi's party committee; Tran Vy, alternate member of the VCP Central Committee, deputy secretary of Hanoi's party committee, mayor of Hanoi; Tran Sam and Nguyen Dong, deputy secretaries of Hanoi's party committee; and other officials. Mongolian Ambassador D. Tserendorj was present.

The two sides informed each other of the building of their respective capitals and the party building work of the two cities' party committees. The Ulaanbaatar delegation was guest at a reception given here this evening by the Hanoi party committee.

CPSU PROPAGANDA DELEGATION DEPARTS 18 FEBRUARY

OW181527Y Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Feb (VNA)--The delegation of the Propaganda Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by V.N. Shevruk, vice chairman of the commission, left here today, concluding its visit to Vietnam.

While here, it paid a floral tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, visited the late president's house, swapped notes with the Commission for Propaganda and Education of the VCP Central Committee, and visited many economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Nam Ninh and Dong Nai provinces.

On 17 February To Huu, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the VCP Central Committee, chairman of the Commission for Propaganda and Education of the party Central Committee, received and had a cordial talk with the delegation. Also present was Nguyen Minh Vy, vice chairman of the commission. I.A. Ognetrov, minister-counsellor of the Soviet Embassy here, was present.

ACTIVITIES OF LENINGRAD DELEGATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY REPORTED

17 February Arrival

OW171541Y Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 17 Feb (VNA)--The delegation of Leningrad Oblast and city arrived in Ho Chi Minh City this morning. It is led by G.V. Romanov, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee and first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast party committee.

This is the first delegation of Leningrad to visit Ho Chi Minh City since the two cities swore sisterhood in late 1977.

It was greeted at Tan Son Nhut Airport by Vo Van Kiet, alternate Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, secretary of Ho Chi Minh City's party committee; Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the city people's committee; and representatives of trade unions, youth and women's organisations, the Vietnam Fatherland Front and people from all walks of life in Ho Chi Minh City.

On this occasion, the Ho Chi Minh City film distribution and projection service held talks in many places on the Soviet city of Leningrad. Each talk was followed by the screening of the Soviet film "900 Unforgettable Days" which praises the heroic fight full of sacrifices of the Soviet people and Red Army in defending Leningrad during World War Two.

17 February Reception, Speeches

OW191651Y Hanoi VNA in English 1544 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Feb (VNA)--A reception was given on 17 February in Ho Chi Minh City by the city committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam in honour of Leningrad's delegation led by G.V. Romanov, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Soviet Union and first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast party committee. Soviet Ambassador B.N. Chaplin was present.

Speaking at the reception, Vo Van Kiet, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the VCP Central Committee and secretary of Ho Chi Minh City's party committee, warmly welcomed the visit to the city by the CPSU delegation of the region and city named after the great Lenin.

He said: "Leningrad and Ho Chi Minh City, though geographically far from each other, are close in the hearts and the tradition of revolutionary struggle of the two nations. It was in Leningrad that Lenin--leader of genius--directly led the Great October Socialist Revolution to victory, opening a new epoch in mankind's history. It was from Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) that Nguyen Ai Quoc, (President Ho Chi Minh), went abroad in quest for a way to national salvation. He arrived in the country enlightened by Marxism-Leninism, and returned to found the first worker-peasant state in Southeast Asia."

Vo Van Kiet praised Leningrad as a symbol of heroic fight against fascism just as Saigon was a symbol of the 30-year struggle against the French and U.S. imperialists. He expressed the gratitude of the city party committee and its population to the party, government and fraternal people of the Soviet Union and the party committee of Leningrad Oblast and city for their devoted and effective assistance to the Vietnamese people in their struggle, as well as their national reconstruction.

He said the establishment of sisterhood between the two cities constituted a great stimulus to the party committee and people of Ho Chi Minh City in implementing the resolution of the Fourth Congress of the VCP.

In reply, G.V. Romanov expressed admiration for and sympathy with the party committee and the people of Ho Chi Minh City who have overcome numerous difficulties left by the war and have recorded outstanding achievements in only a few years. Romanov expressed full support for the stand of the Vietnamese party and government expounded in the statements of 31 December 1977 and 5 February 1978 on the settlement of Vietnam-Kampuchea relations.

19 February Welcome Meeting

BK201404Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Reportage on 19 February meeting held in Ho Chi Minh City by the city party committee to welcome the delegation of the Leningrad Oblast and city party committees--portions recorded]

[Text] Dear friends: On the evening of 19 February the VCP committee in Ho Chi Minh City held a solemn meeting to warmly welcome the visiting delegation of the Leningrad Oblast and city party committees. The delegation was headed by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Political Bureau and first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast party committee. Nearly 2,000 representatives of the various organs, mass organizations and people of all strata in the city stood up and warmly applauded when Comrade Romanov and other members of the visiting delegation arrived to join the meeting's presidium.

Included in the presidium on the Vietnamese side were Comrades Vo Van Kiet, alternate member of the VCP Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee; Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee, deputy secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's committee of Ho Chi Minh City; Nguyen Ho, standing member of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee and chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with the Peoples of All Countries; Prof Nguyen Van Chi, chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City VFF committee; and some representatives of the people of all strata, the armed forces and various religions in Ho Chi Minh City.

Speaking at the meeting, Comrade Vo Van Kiet expressed the enthusiasm and pride of the city's 3.5 million people in having the opportunity to welcome the Soviet brothers from the city bearing the name of the great Lenin, the birthplace of the October Revolution. Comrade Vo Van Kiet recalled the tradition of gallantry in struggle and selfless labor in construction of the people of the two sister cities. He said:

[Begin recording] The sisterhood between Ho Chi Minh City and Leningrad is a symbol of the blood and sweat which the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples have shed in combat and labor, not only for their own freedom and independence, but also for the freedom and independence of all nations and for world peace. It is another token of the close friendship between the two peoples, a friendship which President Ho Chi Minh and the leaders of the Soviet party and government have taken great pains to build and foster. [applause]

We are greatly elated and enthusiastic over the establishment of this sisterhood, a very significant event. This is because, like you, we highly treasure the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples and greatly value the priceless contributions of the October Revolution to the one-third-century-long fight of the Vietnamese people to defeat the two most powerful imperialist countries in the world. [applause]

The state of sisterhood between Leningrad and Ho Chi Minh City will help promote mutual understanding, mutual encouragement and mutual assistance as well as cooperation between the peoples of the two cities in the spirit of comradeship and fraternity. It will also help promote the building of our two cities, making them ever more beautiful. [applause] [end recording]

On behalf of the party organization and people of Ho Chi Minh City, Comrade Vo Van Kiet presented the delegation of the Leningrad Oblast and city party committees with a portrait of venerated and beloved President Ho Chi Minh and a painting depicting Nha Rong port from which Uncle Ho once departed to find the path to national salvation and to Marxism-Leninism.

In his reply, Comrade Romanov wished the Vietnamese people the best of everything and great success in building socialism in reunified Vietnam. As he saw it, the invitation extended by the Ho Chi Minh City party committee to the delegation of the Leningrad Oblast and city party committees to visit Ho Chi Minh City was a new manifestation of the unbreakable solidarity and fraternal friendship between the parties and peoples of the two countries. Comrade Romanov said:

[Begin recording in Russian fading into Vietnamese translation] Our friendship is built on age-old traditions. We take great pride in the fact that the Soviet people rendered support and assistance to the Vietnamese people in the days when Vietnam was facing difficulties and hardships. We consider such support and assistance an international obligation that we must fulfill. As in the past and at present, solidarity with Vietnam will forever be the cause of the heart and conscience of the Soviet people. It is an expression of the unbreakable loyalty of the Soviet people to immortal Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism. A vivid example of this solidarity is the establishment of sisterhood relations between Leningrad and Ho Chi Minh City, a sisterhood which bears great political significance. [end recording]

Comrade Romanov also recalled the tradition of struggle and building of the people of the city named after Lenin, in particular, and of the Soviet people, in general. He expressed his joy over the success scored by fraternal Vietnam in socialist construction. He went on:

[Begin recording in Russian fading into Vietnamese translation] Together with the rest of the Soviet people, we, the people of Leningrad, will remain forever united with you. Many production enterprises and scientific agencies of Leningrad have for a long time contributed to developing and consolidating cooperation between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples. More than 80 Leningrad enterprises, including large establishments such as the (Kiev) combine, the Soviet Union factory, and so forth, are now producing goods of several different kinds for Vietnam. Representatives of these establishments also have the honor of being present at this meeting. The products manufactured by Leningrad enterprises for Vietnam include many different types of machinery, generators, soldering equipment, electronic components, medical equipment, machine tools, (?steel rods, paper), and so forth. [end recording]

In conclusion, Comrade Romanov said: The Vietnamese people recently celebrated their Tet festival. In these first days of spring, we wish all of you party members and people of Ho Chi Minh City many more and yet greater achievements in your creative building of socialism. Comrade Romanov presented the people of Ho Chi Minh City a tapestry embroidered with a portrait of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, founder of the CPSU and the Soviet state, bearing the slogan "Long live the unbreakable friendship between the USSR and the SRV, between the CPSU and the VCP, and between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples!" He also presented them with a painting depicting Lenin proclaiming the founding of Soviet power at the Winter Palace, a symbol of our ever-growing movement to advance toward socialism and communism.

The meeting ended amid the stirring sounds of the Vietnamese and Soviet national anthems, the vibrant singing of the song "Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh" and the thunderous applause of the participants in the meeting.

Visits to City Facilities

BK210944Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] As already reported, on the evening of 19 February, the Executive Committee of the party organization, the people's council, the people's committee and the VFF committee

of Ho Chi Minh City held a solemn meeting to welcome the Leningrad Oblast and city party committee delegation led by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Political Bureau and first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast party committee.

Some 2,000 representatives of all strata from mass organizations, committees, branches, and from the armed forces, people's security force, party committee echelons, administration and front from 17 wards and districts of the city and representatives of comrades of long standing who had participated in the revolution since the founding of the party attended the meeting to warmly welcome the distinguished guests.

Prior to the meeting, during a tour of the sister city on the morning of 18 February, Comrades Romanov and (Alekseva) and the Leningrad Oblast and city party committee delegation visited the Le Minh Xuan state farm where the delegation recorded its feelings in the souvenir book as follows: Though the work being done by the state farm is only the beginning, it is important in that it lays the foundations of a socialist economy. We hope that the state farm will harvest crops with increasingly high output in order to insure sufficient grain for the workers, to materialize Uncle Ho's testament and to implement the resolution of the Fourth VCP Congress.

The delegation visited the pineapple-growing areas and general headquarters No 7 of the assault youths who were building the state farm. In a cordial talk with the city youth, Comrade (Korchov) said: Leningrad factories were built on vacant land just as you are doing here.

The delegation then visited the Thang Loi looms where Comrade (Alekseva), on behalf of the delegation and Leningrad women, told her Ho Chi Minh City friends: In the Soviet Union and in Leningrad, women are present in all activities. More than 50 percent of the cadres in the administration, 47 percent of Soviet deputies and 85 percent of workers and leading committees in Leningrad looms are women. Delegation head Romanov also said: I want to stand in front of President Ho's picture to hand a portrait of Lenin to you.

On the afternoon of 18 February, the delegation visited the city polytechnic college. On behalf of the workers, cadres and engineers of the (Chirov) factory where he is chief engineer, Comrade (Fotov) said: In the near future, Leningrad will build a large tanker to be named after Ho Chi Minh City. He added: To our people, Vietnam is a symbol of heroism.

On the same afternoon, the delegation visited the Le Hong Phong school.

On the evening of 18 February, the delegation attended an artistic performance given in its honor at the city theater. Addressing the Vietnamese artists, Comrade (Alekseva) said in her capacity as deputy head of the delegation: The friendship between our two peoples and our two cities is an invaluable heritage bequeathed to us by the great Lenin and revered President Ho Chi Minh.

On the morning of 19 February, the Leningrad Oblast and city party committee delegation visited the Saigon port area, the Ba Son factory, the new harbor, and the fine arts export product exhibition center. In the afternoon they visited the Dong Tam machinery cooperative, the drug addiction treatment center and the city teenagers club.

At the Nha Rong harbor, the delegation reverently toured the Nha Rong wharf from where Uncle Ho departed to seek ways to save the country. They also visited the Ban Son workshop where Uncle Ton worked from 1920.

At the Dong Tam cooperative, Comrade (Fotov), a USSR labor hero, wrote in the cooperative's souvenir book: We wish new achievements in productive labor to the brother and sister workers under the city party committee leadership. May we convey to you the sincere greetings of Leningrad city.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN SUPPORTS ETHIOPIAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST SOMALIA

OW182249Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Feb 78 OW

[Report on QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 February commentary: "The Military Situation in Ogaden"]

[Text] The conflict which broke out in Ogaden in July 1977 between the Ethiopian armed forces and troops of the so-called "Front for the Liberation of West Somalia" supported by Somalia's regular armed forces, has become very fierce.

After dealing with the troubled history of the Ogaden desert, the commentary points out: Taking advantage of this complicated situation created by history, the imperialist have used every means to stimulate the Somali ruling circles to create a fiery conflict so as to check the progress of the democratic national revolution in this area. The Ethiopian Government has on several occasions called on the Somali authorities to beware of the enemy's ruses, end the conflict and sit down at the negotiating table, but Somalia has rejected this legitimate proposal.

To protect Ethiopia's sovereignty and territory, for the past 2 weeks the Ethiopian armed forces have launched a strong offensive against the troops of the so-called "Front for the Liberation of West Somalia" and against the Somali troops occupying Ogaden and have forced them out of Dawa, liberated the important railroad linking Addis Ababa with Djibouti and the Red Sea, captured many prisoners and seized a large quantity of weapons and war materiel. As Western military circles have observed, Ethiopia controls the airspace over Ogaden and has many advantages in stepping up the offensive.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN continues: The Ethiopian Government recently stated that it would liberate Ogaden, its sacred territory, but had no intention of invading Somalia. Ethiopia will insure the safety of those Somalis who do not oppose the Ethiopian armed forces' liberation of Ogaden. Ethiopia is ready to be a good neighbor of Somalia and is determined to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity and consolidate and advance the revolution.

The Ethiopian Government's goodwill has not yet been duly responded to by Somalia which is still relying on the assistance and support of the imperialists and regional reactionaries to continue its military adventure in the Ogaden desert.

In conclusion, the commentary says: It is reported that the United States has sent three of its warships to the Red Sea and offshore waters of Ethiopia to threaten the Ethiopians in their struggle for national defense. Western countries have slanderously charged that Ethiopia is pursuing an expansionist policy in order to defend their brazen interference. The United States is resorting to the maneuver of sending weapons to Somalia and to the rebels in Ogaden through a number of intermediary countries, in an attempt to conceal its intervention and subversion in Ethiopia.

BRIEFS

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS ARMY DIVISION--Hanoi, 16 Feb--Division 333 of the Vietnam People's Army stationed in Tay Nguyen (the central highlands) has just harvested its second paddy crop on 6,280 hectares of newly cleared land. Great efforts are being made by the division to put 7,000 more hectares under cultivation, to double and even treble the herd of cattle compared with last year, and finish the Ea Oui and Ea Ba reservoirs to water 400-500 hectares of rice and help them produce two crops a year. [Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 16 Feb 78 OW]

LEE KUAN YEW, OTHERS HOLD NEWS CONFERENCES IN SYDNEY

OW171721Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0710 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] At a news conference in Sydney today the prime minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, has again stressed the need for Australia to open its markets to more Asian manufacturers. (Graham Dobell) was there for Radio Australia;

[Begin recording] [Lee Kuan Yew] We also know that this is not something which can be resolved in 1978. In fact if we can begin to make some movements toward what we intend in the middle term, in the intermediate term--say 5, 7 years from now. Are you still going to be using relatively not advanced equipment making shoes, raincoats, umbrellas, shirts, garments, assembling television sets, electronic calculators 5, 7, 10 years from now? That is the decision you must make.

[Question] [words indistinct] Mr Fraser, do you believe he is sympathetic to your contention that Australia should move away from these forms of production in the medium to long term?

[Answer] Mr Fraser is a very dogged man. He is not one to make his decisions lightly. He has taken his position publicly. I have not the slightest doubt that he will stick to his position, and I have also not the slightest doubt that he is sensitive to the realities of present-day politics and the economics that go with the politics.

[Question] Could you describe Australia as being selfish in its concern for its own problems, and not enough concerned with the problems of its neighbors?

[Answer] I would not like to come to Australia and at a press conference at the end of 5 days of rather generous hospitality to abuse Australians, but if you feel any sense of guilt, then of course I would ask you to search your conscience and purge yourself of that sense of guilt. [end recording]

The president of Bangladesh, Maj Gen Ziaur Rahman, also spoke to reporters before leaving Australia at the conclusion of the Commonwealth heads of government regional conference that was held in Sydney this week. (Duncan Fairweather) reports:

[Begin recording] In his first contact with journalists since the conference began, General Ziaur told us today that although Bangladesh has huge problems in improving the lot of its people it seeks no favors from the richer countries of the region.

[Rahman] It is we who have to help ourselves. We have to organize our people. We have to organize our government, and some foreign assistance can never change our fortune. We must work out ourselves.

We have tremendous resources, potential resources which we have never exploited, and it is not necessary for us to remain poor if we organize ourselves and exploit these resources, and this has been amply proved during the last 2 years. We are exporting much more than before. We are producing more of things; our (?nationalized) sectors are making profit. We have much better planning machinery in the government, and we are beginning to receive a lot more assistance from world bodies and friendly countries. [end recording]

Further Comments

OW171723Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew today hit out at critics of his government's policy toward Indochinese refugees. He accused Western nations of sanctimonious hypocrisy over the issue and said if Australians were concerned enough they should make efforts to have the matter tackled on an international level. Mr Lee was speaking at a news conference in Sydney before leaving for home at the end of the regional Commonwealth heads of government meeting. He said the problem of refugees from Indochina had to be handled by the world community. Singapore, he said, had played its part helping to relocate refugees.

With the Sydney conference over, participating leaders have begun leaving for home. Secrecy surrounded the departure of several heads of government, but along with Mr Lee, representatives from India, Nauru and New Zealand are reported to have left Australia. Among those staying on for an extra day or two are Mr Michael Somare of Papua New Guinea and Datuk Hussein Onn of Malaysia. Mr Somare is planning to leave Sydney on Sunday after a round of private engagements in New South Wales while Datuk Hussein is going to Melbourne for a private visit before leaving on Monday.

At a news conference today Mr Somare firmly restated his government's policy of returning rebels from Irian Jaya to Indonesian authorities. He said Papua New Guinea would not accept those who made trouble in Irian Jaya and then fled to Papua New Guinea. Mr Somare said, however, that if people sought asylum then he felt reason to believe that they wanted to live in Papua New Guinea as good citizens.

At a separate news conference the president of Bangladesh, Maj Gen Ziaur Rahman, said Australia and Bangladesh had agreed to have regular high level discussions to foster joint cooperation. He said specific projects to be discussed were a petrochemical installation in Bangladesh, extraction of oil from coal and solar energy. The Bangladesh leader described the Sydney conference as a success and said it had created immense good will.

The prime minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, spent much of today on a macadamia nut plantation near Lismore in northern New South Wales. A Radio Australia reporter says the Fijian leader is hoping that a successful macadamia industry in his country will offset losses through its falling income from sugar production.

Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Remarks

BK201154Y Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The Sri Lanka foreign minister has called for the elimination of power rivalry in the Indian Ocean. The Minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, has told a news conference in Sydney that the just-concluded Commonwealth regional conference in Australia could be a stepping stone for the birth of an Asian-South Pacific common market. He has explained that although Asia accounts for 93 percent of the world's tea, 90 percent of the world's rubber and 87 percent of the coconut output, the Asian region lacks the economic strength to deal with the industrialized West and other developed countries and powerful economic groupings.

When asked if other delegates who attended the conference shared Sri Lanka's views on this subject, Mr Hameed said he had sounded a number of Asian foreign ministers and found that most of them were sympathetic toward the idea. The foreign minister also explained that the proposed common market does not mean the birth of an institution which wants to hold the rest of the international community to ransom or blackmail.

Dealing with negotiations going on between the Soviet Union and the United States on mutual reduction of forces in the Indian Ocean, Mr Hameed made it clear that the talks must lead to the demilitarization and elimination of power rivalry. He stressed that Sri Lanka is definitely against any demilitarization of spheres of influence. [as heard]

MALAYSIAN LEADER LEAVES EARLY; KIDNAP THREATS REVEALED

BK191545Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Hussein bin Onn today left Australia, canceling the last 2 days of his visit to Melbourne. The Foreign Affairs Department in Canberra said that Hussein bin Onn went home in order to prepare for the Thai prime minister's visit to Malaysia this week. But police sources have revealed that there were threats to kidnap Hussein bin Onn when he was attending the commonwealth heads of government conference.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OPENS NEW PARLIAMENT SESSION IN CANBERRA

OW210821Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0547 GMT 21 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Canberra, 21 Feb (AFP)--Abolition of all death duties from 1 July 1979 throughout the Australian capital territory was promised today by the Fraser government in a parliamentary speech by the governor-general, Sir Zelman Cowen.

The new governor-general, opening Parliament for the first time, said that legislation exempting from duties all estates of deceased, as well as gifts passing between husband and wife or parent and child, would operate retrospectively as from 21 November 1977. This was part of the government's plan to give individuals greater control over resources. Easing the tax burden was a high priority in the government's programme.

Death duties have been abolished in the state of Queensland and reduced in some other states. The federal government is now giving an example to remaining states to encourage them to abolish all death duties over the next few years.

Sir Zelman Cowen opened the first session of the 31st Federal Parliament since Australian federation with a formal parade. He upheld all ceremony first established by the first Australian-born governor-general, Sir Isaac Isaacs in the 1930's. Sir Zelman Cowen is the biographer of Sir Isaac Isaacs, who was appointed by the Labor government against the wishes of the late King George V.

Sir Zelman Cowen made no reference to the recent constitutional crises and for the first time in five years the traditional opening speech asked that "divine providence guide parliamentary deliberations". This phrase had disappeared from the ceremony in recent years.

Among other points made by Sir Zelman Cowen were: Legislation to enable a proclamation of an Australian fishing zone covering all living marine resources out to 200 nautical miles; a national energy conservation programme to be conducted in cooperation with state governments alongside a petrol price equalisation scheme to ensure that petrol prices do not weigh too heavily on the rural community.

Summing up the Fraser government's policy, Sir Zelman Cowen said no attempt would be made to trade off unemployment against inflation. The priority of the government's economic policy was to defeat inflation. "For only in this way can there be a sustained reduction in unemployment."

He said that the recent Commonwealth heads of government regional meeting had done much to help in developing closer relations with Australia's neighbours. The highest priority in international relations for Australia was the maintenance of its strong relations with the U.S.A., Britain and New Zealand.

EEC ANTIDUMPING DUTIES ON STEEL 'CONDEMNED' BY AUSTRALIA

OW171659Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Feb 78 OW

[Text] The federal government has condemned a decision by the European Economic Community to impose provisional antidumping duties on steel exports from Australia. The deputy prime minister, Mr Anthony, said tonight the decision threatened a further reduction of Australia's export opportunities. He added that the move seemed to undermine the purpose of recent discussions with officials from the community aimed at developing a more meaningful trade relationship.

The EEC announced yesterday it was imposing provisional antidumping duties on some kinds of Australian steel which it claimed were being sold in Europe at less than the community's own basic price. The commission has told Australia its products cannot be exempted from measures aimed at getting the community's own steel industry out of its recession.

Tonight Mr Anthony said Australia should continue to provide a growing market for Europe and play an increasingly important role as a stable and reliable supplier of minerals and raw materials. He said the minister for special trade representations, Mr Garland, would visit Brussels shortly and would put Australia's views to the community in the strongest terms.

NEW ZEALAND SOCIAL CREDIT PARTY WINS PARLIAMENT SEAT

OW190358Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0347 GMT 19 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Wellington, 19 Feb (AFP)--The Social Credit Party won its first seat in New Zealand parliament since 1969 when it defeated the National government candidate at the Rangitikei byelection on 18 Feb.

The defeat for government does not affect its large majority in Parliament, whose membership will now be National 54, Labour 32, and Social Credit 1. The byelection was caused by the death of Speaker Sir Roy Jack who held a seat in the 1975 general election with a majority of 1,765 ahead of Social Credit.

Saturday's poll ended with Social Credit leader Bruce Beetham having a majority of 1,401 over National.

THAILAND'S KRIANGSAK VISITS INDONESIA 17-19 FEBRUARY

BK171251Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK

[Text] State guests Thai Prime Minister and Mrs Kriangsak Chamanan arrived this afternoon at Jakarta's Halim Perdanakusuma International Airport. They were personally welcomed by President and Mrs Suharto and Vice President Hamengku Buwono. The state guests were accorded a 19-gun salute, the Thai and Indonesian national anthems were played.

Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan's visit marks the first leg of his visit to four ASEAN countries--Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore.

In the entourage are Foreign Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun, Communications Minister Surayit Maiyalap, Agriculture Minister Prida Kannasut, Commerce Minister Nam Phunwatthu and Deputy Interior Minister Prem Tinsulanon.

Cabinet ministers, chairmen of the highest state institutions, diplomats from friendly countries and high-ranking civil and military authorities were at the airport to meet the visitors.

Kriangsak Banquet Speech

BK180850Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0709 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 18 Feb (ANTARA)--Visiting Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan told a dinner party held in his honour at the state palace here Friday [17 February] evening that his visit to Indonesia and other ASEAN member countries was aimed at reinstating the priority given by his government in its foreign policy, especially concerning those of neighbouring countries. The visit, he said, also constituted direct personal relations between himself and other ASEAN heads of government.

Prime Minister Kriangsak expressed appreciation to President Suharto for his contributions to the progress of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. He said strengthening of bilateral relations between Thailand and Indonesia was scheduled to be taken up in a face-to-face meeting between himself and President Suharto on Saturday.

Concluding the speech at the state banquet well-attended by cabinet ministers, military officers, the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries, Prime Minister Kriangsak and President Suharto raised a toast for the progress and further strengthening of friendships between the governments and peoples of the two countries.

After enjoying dinner, President Suharto asked his Thai counterpart to witness an arts performance featuring four kinds of Indonesia's rich variety of traditional dances, namely "tari ngremo," "tari lilin," "tari kupu-kupu" and "tari wira pertiwi."

Before dinner, Prime Minister Kriangsak and President Suharto exchanged souvenirs. President Suharto presented a Bali kris in exchange for a coin he received from his Thai counterpart. Mrs Tien Suharto also presented a batik cloth and a set of dishes in exchange for a set of plates made up of porcelain she received from her counterpart. President Suharto then pinned an Adipradana medal on Prime Minister Kriangsak. Vice President Sultan Hamengku Buwono presented a set of tea cups to Prime Minister Kriangsak in exchange for a set of ceramic plates made in Chiang Mai in Thailand from the visiting Thai prime minister.

Suharto Banquet Speech

BK180834Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0718 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 17 Feb (ANTARA)--President Suharto said here today that the determination to live peacefully did not constitute a weakness because it also demanded courage of perseverance. Addressing a state dinner held in honor of visiting Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan and Mrs Chamanan at Istana Negara, the president said it was, therefore, imperative for ASEAN nations to strengthen their respective national resilience conducive to the establishment of a regional resilience, and ASEAN is an essential forum in order to facilitate cooperation between member countries on various fields in view of accelerating efforts to reinforce their individual and collective national resilience.

"This becomes indispensable so we can materialize our determination in charting our own future. It is also fundamental because each of us is a sovereign state. We need stability and peace in our region because only such a climate will enable us to generate faster the process of development for the well-being of our respective people. Stability and peace in this region, therefore, are prerequisites and for this particular reason consolidation of ASEAN remains one of the fundamental pillars of our foreign policy," President Suharto said.

The president voiced Indonesia's appreciation to Prime Minister Kriangsak for Thailand's continued support for ASEAN. Indonesia, the president said, similarly fully supports Prime Minister Kriangsak's endeavors to reestablish a climate that opens up the possibility of normalizing its relations with neighboring Indochinese countries. Indonesia is impressed that the development in Thailand took place calmly without creating unrest or instability.

The President hoped that during the visit here by Prime Minister Kriangsak, Indonesia and Thailand could have a frank and open discussion to further enhance mutual understanding between the two peoples. "I am convinced that the outcome of the exchanges of views will be greatly beneficial, because he will know better the problem which we are facing together as well as the answer which we will eventually provide, individually or collectively, related to bilateral, regional or international questions," the president said.

"I believe that in the history of this region, the five countries--Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines--have never been grouped into one forum, such as the present ASEAN. We have never felt such a strong mutual confidence, such a close friendship and cooperation. This reality is a historical milestone for our common future. We have faith in our future, we are therefore firmly determined to build that future, namely a future endowed with peace, progress and welfare for our respective peoples, individually and collectively. We are jointly resolved to chart and to build our own future in accordance with our own will and resolution, and we will not allow other powers to interfere with or decide it. This reflects a new spirit and a new era in this region," the president said.

Kriangsak 'Satisfied' with Suharto Talks

BK181333Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Private talks between President Suharto and Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan took place this morning for 2 hours at Merdeka Palace.

After the meeting Prime Minister Kriangsak declined to disclose the outcome except to say they were conducted very smoothly and he was satisfied with the meeting. He also declined to mention subjects of discussion, saying to wait for a joint communique to be announced tomorrow before he leaves for Bali.

Answering questions, Kriangsak said he agreed with President Suharto that each ASEAN member country must further strengthen its respective national resilience, ultimately bringing about regional resilience in Southeast Asia. But, he said, national resilience should not be limited to the military sector alone.

While Suharto and Kriangsak held talks, officials concerned with the two countries' political, economic and security affairs also held talks, divided into three groups. In the political field their talks touched on judicial and extradition problems, while in the economic field they discussed Indonesia's purchase of rice from Thailand, Indonesian oil exports to Thailand and fishery cooperation. In defense and security talks, they discussed, among other things, cooperation in maritime border operations between the two countries.

Before his private talks with President Suharto, Prime Minister Kriangsak paid homage to the Kalibata Heroes Cemetery while Mrs Kriangsak, accompanied by Mrs Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, visited the "Indonesia in Miniature" Park. Mrs Kriangsak was received by Mrs Tien Suharto at the park and was shown the orchid garden, aviary and other things.

Andaman Seabed Agreement

BK181735Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 18 Feb (AFP)--Indonesia and Thailand today exchanged the instruments of ratification of the agreement on the delimitation of a seabed boundary between the two countries in the Andaman Sea. The exchange took place between Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja and his Thai counterpart Dr Uppadit Pachariyangkun, who is now here accompanying the Thai prime minister on his first visit to Indonesia. The seabed agreement itself was signed on December 11, 1975.

Mr Kusumaatmadja, in a short speech after exchanging the notes, said: "The entry into force of this agreement today will undoubtedly further strengthen the existing friendly relations between and two countries, both members of ASEAN, and facilitate our efforts to maintain and promote peace and stability in this region". The agreement, the minister added, will pave the way towards the conclusion of a tripartite agreement between India, Indonesia and Thailand in the Andaman Sea.

Kriangsak Press Conference

BK211037Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0707 GMT 21 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 20 Feb (ANTARA)--Thailand has expressed gratitude for Indonesia's offer to provide liquified petroleum gas (LPG) and a certain grade of crude to meet Thailand's industrial demand. "I would like to express my appreciation for the offer", was stated by visiting Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan during a press conference at Wisma Negara here Sunday [19 February] morning.

With regard to amount and price of LPG to be bought by Thailand from Indonesia, the prime minister said these questions would be further negotiated by officials of the two countries in the future. Particularly referring to the Indonesian crude to be supplied to his country, the Thai premier said the crude grade would have to be adjusted to existing refinery facilities in his country.

He also was gratified by Indonesia's willingness to give priority to rice from Thailand. He said Thailand would give Indonesia priority in selling surplus rice to it. He said that the question of price and amount of rice to be exported by his country to Indonesia would also have to be discussed by officials of the two countries.

He said the question of priorities in food supplies and fuel was in complete agreement with the ASEAN concord declaration achieved during the ASEAN summit in Bali in 1976. He said it was also agreed by the two countries to further increase trade relations, including the sale of manufactured goods, he said.

The Thai premier and party, including his wife and Foreign Minister Dr. Uppadit Pachariyangkun, arrived here Friday for a two-day official visit to this country at the invitation of President Suharto.

During the press conference the Thai premier was also questioned about possible communist threats against his country. The Thai premier said he firmly believed that there was no communist state having ill intentions against his country. He stressed that Thailand did not consider the communist countries as its enemies except states with ill designs against Thailand. [sentence as received]

He explained that Thailand's foreign policy aimed at strengthening relations with all countries regardless of their political or social systems. The Thai leader, however, confirmed that his government was taking the necessary steps against communist activities in his country, because communism was not in agreement with the philosophy of life of the Thai people.

He said he came to Indonesia to explain to the Indonesian Government the situation at the common borders between Thailand and its communist neighbours in Indochina. He disclosed that President Suharto in his talks with him had expressed grave concern about border incidents between Thailand and its neighbours because of Indonesia's close proximity to these Indochinese states. But after he told the Indonesia leader that efforts leading towards a peaceful solution had been successful, the concern of President Suharto had reduced, he added.

The premier also stressed that Thailand had been making serious efforts at implementing decisions adopted during the second ASEAN summit in Kuala Lumpur last year that ASEAN should maintain the closest possible and friendly relations with the Indochinese states. Much had been achieved in this regard, he said, pointing out that diplomatic relations had been reopened between his country and Vietnam and with Laos.

Referring to the conflict between Thailand and Cambodia, he said that frequency of armed contacts at the common border between the two countries had reduced considerably during the past three months. He was convinced that the Thai-Cambodian conflict would be settled peacefully, without the use of armed force.

Asked whether the change of national leadership in Thailand now headed by him would mean that the heads of ASEAN member states--Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia--would lead towards a third summit, Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan said that the question has not been taken up. He stressed that ASEAN summits had not been scheduled to take place every year. But, he added, the summits were only held to face one or another particular situation and problem among the ASEAN.

The press conference was held on the eve of the departure of the Thai premier and his party for Bali Sunday for a two-day holiday tour of the tourist island accompanied by Foreign Minister ad interim Mochtar Kusumaatmadja as host.

Report on Joint Communique

BK211055Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0723 GMT 21 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, 20 Feb (ANTARA)--President Suharto and Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan have agreed that the present situation in Southeast Asia was favourable for further development of mutual cooperation among countries in the region. In relation to such a purpose, Indonesia supports Thailand in efforts to normalize and improve ties with Indochina. This was stated in a joint communique between Indonesia and Thailand, at the end of the three-day visit of Premier Kriangsak Chamanan, issued here Sunday [19 February] morning.

The two heads of state have also agreed to support the establishment of the new international economic order. In this case they reaffirmed their desire to continue and to strengthen cooperation in the international forum to stabilize prices and to increase export revenues from commodities for the sake of the ASEAN member countries.

President Suharto and Premier Kriangsak believed that stability and prosperity in each ASEAN member country would be a positive contribution to peace in the region and in the world in general.

They emphasised the necessity to accelerate ASEAN cooperation as agreed upon at the Bali summit meeting and reaffirmed at the Kuala Lumpur summit meeting.

For this purpose, they pledged to continuously maintain consultation among ASEAN governments, thereby enhancing the cohesiveness of the ASEAN member countries.

Thai Prime Minister and Mrs. Kriangsak Chamanan extended an invitation to Indonesian President and Mrs. Suharto to visit Thailand at a mutually convenient time. This invitation was accepted with pleasure, but the date of the visit is to be decided through diplomatic channels.

Further main points of the communique were:

President Suharto conferred on Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan the medal of the Republic Indonesia Adipradana in recognition of his successful efforts to foster closer friendship between Thailand and Indonesia.

Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan and President Suharto held wide-ranging discussions on bilateral relations as well as on the latest regional and international developments, in particular on those that recently took place in Southeast Asia.

In reviewing relations between Thailand and Indonesia, the two heads of government noted with satisfaction the increasing mutually beneficial cooperation in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields. They agreed to further enhance this cooperation as a means to bolster their respective national resilience.

--The two leaders reaffirmed their determination to intensify cooperation in basic commodities, particularly food, and energy as contained in the declaration of ASEAN concord. In this spirit Indonesia agreed to give priority to purchase its import requirements of rice from Thailand, while Thailand agreed to give priority to Indonesia in supplying rice from its exportable surplus.

--Noting the wider range of products, including manufactured goods, now being traded and desirous of developing their trade relations, the two heads of government agreed to find ways and means to increase the existing bilateral trade between the two countries to their mutual advantage.

--Indonesia agreed to supply Thailand, upon request, with a certain type of crude oil and industrial liquified petroleum gas.

--During the visit, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, as represented by Prof. Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, minister of foreign affairs a.i., and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, as represented by Dr. Uppadit Pachariyangkun, minister of foreign affairs, exchanged the instruments of ratification of the agreement relating to the delimitation of the seabed boundary between the two countries in the Andaman Sea.

--Thailand and Indonesia agreed to enter an agreement on judicial cooperation. To this end, a meeting of officials from both sides will be held in the very near future.

In exchanging views on the international economic situation, the two leaders expressed their full support for the establishment of the new international economic order. In this respect, they reiterated their determination to continue and strengthen their cooperation in international forums to stabilize prices and increase export earnings from commodities of interest to the ASEAN member countries.

--On ASEAN, the two leaders reaffirmed that stability and prosperity in the member states would be a positive contribution to peace in the region and in the world in general.

They further emphasised the necessity to accelerate ASEAN cooperation as agreed upon at the Bali summit meeting and reaffirmed at the Kuala Lumpur summit meeting, and to this end, pledged to continuously maintain close consultations among ASEAN governments, thereby enhancing the cohesiveness of the ASEAN member countries.

On matters pertaining to the region the two leaders shared the view that the present situation in Southeast Asia is favourable for further development of mutually beneficial relations and cooperation among the countries in the area. In this context, the Indonesian side expressed its support for the efforts on the part of Thailand to normalize and improve its relations with the Indochinese states.

Departure for Bali

BK190942Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Our state guest, Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan, left Jakarta at 1000 [0300 GMT] this morning with full military honors, including the playing of both countries' national anthems and a 19-gun salute.

President and Mrs Tien Suharto and Vice President Hamengku Buwono saw off the state guest, along with cabinet members, heads of state institutions, members of the diplomatic corps and a number of civil and military officials including Jakarta metropolitan Governor Tjokropranolo and members of the Jakarta metropolitan regional executive council.

From Jakarta Prime Minister Kriangsak and members of his entourage will make a 1-night stopover in Denpasar before continuing their tour to the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore. During their stay in Bali the guests will visit various tourist attractions and observe Balinese arts.

According to schedule, Prime Minister Kriangsak will leave for Manila tomorrow morning from Ngurah Rai Airport at 0915 [0215 GMT] by the same Thai International Airways plane which carried the prime minister here last Friday.

Departure for Philippines

BK200804Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 19 Feb 78 BK

[Excerpt] Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan and his entourage, after a 4-day stay in Indonesia since 17 February, this morning continued their trip to the Philippines for a 4-day visit.

Prime Minister Kriangsak was in Bali since yesterday on an informal visit after winding up a 3-day state visit to Indonesia. Late yesterday the prime minister, accompanied by the Bali governor and other local high-ranking officials, visited the Bali cultural and arts center in Adian Prapat and later in the evening attended a reception hosted by Governor Sukarmen at the Pertamina cottage.

TROOPS TO OCCUPY BANDUNG CAMPUS THROUGH MARCH

DK171051Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK

[Excerpts] Jakarta, 17 Feb (AFP)--Bandung garrison troops have been instructed to continue military occupation of the institute of technology whose rector was sacked yesterday, until the end of March when the general session of the congress expected to re-elect President Suharto will be over. The occupation of the Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB) where students last month expressed their opposition to the re-election of President Suharto, today entered its eighth day. Troops staged a show of force as four armoured cars moved near the ITB campus. The armoured cars which appeared for the first time in the surroundings of the campus, according to student sources, were parked in a line near a mosque located not far from ITB.

An official announcement said today that the West Java security command in Bandung has been asked to continue its "aid" and "physical support" to ITB on request of an "operational council for restoration of order in the ITB" set up there. The second regional military commander (Java-Madura), Lieutenant General Widjojo Sujono, whose headquarters is in Yogyakarta, went apparently purposely to Bandung today for a routine monthly roll-call at the Bandung garrison command. Lieut. Gen. Sujono personally delivered a speech saying in an apparent reference to the recent military crackdown on student activities, that "corrective measures" taken against "certain forms of action" were "absolutely necessary".

Meanwhile in Jakarta, an Education Ministry spokesman, Kresnomo, declared that the rector of the Bandung Institute of Technology, Professor Iskandar Alisjahbana, had been relieved of his post "honourably" in line with a decision of Education Minister Syarif Thayeb. Director General for Higher Education Professor Doddy Tisna Amidjaja has been named executive officer to restore order in the ITB and the four-member governing body, designated to replace Rector Alisjahbana, is headed by Dr Sudjana from ITB, the spokesman added.

The new ITB administration today summoned the acting general chairman of the ITB student council but student sources said the acting general chairman did not want to meet with the governing body before the troops were withdrawn from the campus. Student sources said that 10 ITB students arrested when the troops moved into the campus were still detained in Bandung and 20 others were being held in various cities in Java.

MALAYSIA

HUSSEIN RETURNS TO MALAYSIA AFTER REPORTED KIDNAP THREAT

BK200040Y Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Prime minister Hussein bin Onn has cut short his visit to Australia, and returned to Kuala Lumpur late last night because of a reported threat to kidnap him in Melbourne. He said he has been advised by student security services that more than one Malaysian had gone to Melbourne to kidnap him and to do something harmful to him.

The prime minister, who was accompanied by his wife, Datin Suhaila, declined to reveal who the people were, but he made it clear that they were not Malaysian students.

Doctor Hussein, who attended the 4-day Commonwealth heads of government regional meeting in Sydney, was scheduled to meet Malaysian students in Melbourne yesterday afternoon and to return to Kuala Lumpur tomorrow.

He said that he himself decided to cancel the Melbourne visit and return home because of the report. He said he was about to leave from Sydney airport for Melbourne when he was informed about the reported kidnap threat. According to the security people, a few people from Kuala Lumpur had gone to Melbourne. They reportedly had gone there to create some trouble and do some harm to him. He decided to cancel the visit, because he did not feel that it was fair to the Australian security people to impose an additional burden on them.

He was met at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by the Deputy Prime Minister Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed and other Cabinet ministers.

HUSSEIN 'CONCERNED' OVER LEFTIST MALAYSIANS IN AUSTRALIA

BK200906Y Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Hussein bin Onn said he is concerned about the leftwing activities of a minority of Malaysian students in Australia. In an interview with Australian journalists in Sydney last Saturday [18 February] he said some of these students appeared to be falling for communist propaganda by portraying Malaysia as a police state.

While defending the various security acts and measures in the country, Datuk Hussein said communist terrorists based in the jungle and communist killer squads operating in the urban areas were responsible for murdering and injuring officials, policemen and innocent civilians. The communists in Malaysia have been trying to seize power by force since 1948. The communists resorted to violence because they could not persuade the people to accept their ideology by peaceful means.

RITHAUDEEN RETURNS, HAILS AUSTRALIA ON COMMODITY PLAN

BK180952Y Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 18 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Malaysia is happy about Australia's support for the speedy establishment of the common fund for price stabilization of primary commodities. Minister of Foreign Affairs Tengku Datuk Ahmad Rithaudeen bin Ismail pointed out that Australian support was declared at the Commonwealth heads of government regional conference in Sydney.

He told newsmen on his return to Kuala Lumpur after attending the meeting that it was now up to Australia to influence other developed countries to support the establishment of the fund. The fund was also important to Australia since it was a major producer of several commodities. Tengku Rithauddeen went on to say that Malaysia looked forward to the reconvening in March of the north-south dialog between developed and developing nations.

SINGAPORE

PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON SYDNEY COMMONWEALTH MEETING

BK161416Y Singapore Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Mr Lee Kuan Yew has said that the Commonwealth heads of government regional meeting, which ended in Sydney yesterday, had achieved more than he had thought possible. Despite the difficulty of bringing together 12 countries as far apart as India and Nauru and with such disparate interests, the fact that they had managed to find sufficient common ground to meet again in 1980 is quite an achievement.

The prime minister was addressing a news conference before leaving Sydney for home. Mr Lee is now back in Singapore.

Asked if he had obtained any indication or movement by the Australian prime minister on reducing tariff barriers to goods in the region, Mr Lee said he had not expected any change to come out of the conference. It was something that had to be worked out over a period of years.

Mr Lee also said that the question of increasing access to the Australian market did not concern just him and Mr Fraser. It also concerned Malaysia and the other members of ASEAN.

Mr Lee was asked about Mr Fraser's reaction to his proposal for improvement in Australia's system of tariff preferences and the idea of improving regional trade on the basis of three overlapping circles. Mr Lee said Mr Fraser was not enthusiastic about the three overlapping circles as he felt that the circles (?trapped) Australia in each and would therefore put Australia in three different (?spaces).

But Mr Fraser had been positive on the idea of deeper cuts on a wider range of products under Australia's system of tariff preferences. Mr Lee added however that these would have to be negotiated by officials.

Asked what sort of cooperation among countries in the region he envisaged to combat the menace of terrorism, the prime minister said this would include liaison and exchange of information on terrorists and their tactics. Eventually they would seek at the United Nations agreement by all countries to deny sanctuaries to terrorists. Then, the law against terrorists could be enforced worldwide.

BRIEFS

HIGH COMMISSIONER TO BANGLADESH--Haji Yaacob bin Mohamed has been appointed Singapore's high commissioner to Bangladesh. He succeeds Kenneth M. Byrne. Haji Yaacob bin Mohamed, who is presently Singapore's high commissioner to India, will continue to reside in New Delhi. [Text] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 20 Feb 78 BK]

MARCOS WARNS OF POSSIBLE DELAY IN LIFTING MARTIAL LAW

OW180600Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0535 GMT 18 Feb 78 OW

[Excerpts] Manila, 18 Feb (AFP)--Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos warned today that agitation and propaganda against the government if left unchecked could delay the timetable for lifting martial law. He called on the armed forces to exercise the utmost vigilance, saying that despite the attainment of political stability the country had not yet weathered the crisis to its security posed by Moslem separatist rebels "supported from outside" and by communist guerrillas.

The president spoke in a nationally televised address at the graduation ceremony for 139 cadets from the Philippine military academy in the northern summer capital of Baguio city 200 kms (125 miles) north of here.

Mr Marcos said five years of martial law had brought about stability, established the foundations for a "truly representative government" and set the stage for parliamentary elections on 7 April to form a 200-man Interim National Assembly.

Apparently referring to the resurgence of political attacks against his administration by the opposition Liberal Party, Mr Marcos said that "the currents of agitation and propaganda...if left unchecked would return us into chaos and national emergency."

"Any situation that would require tightening of controls rather than their relaxation will have deep repercussions upon our timetable for the eventual lifting of martial law," he warned.

Reviewing the overall situation in the country today, Mr Marcos noted that the "wave of terrorism and rebellion" waged by the separatist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the Mindanao region, southern Philippines, was continuing and that civilian communities were being daily attacked by the insurgents. He said that in Luzon Island, in the Philippines' northern half, the activities of the communist new people's army, military arm of the outlawed Communist Party, had not completely subsided despite the arrest of their top leaders.

ROMULO COMMENTS ON PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN RELATIONS

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[Text] Manila, 20 Feb (AFP)--Foreign Secretary Carlos Romulo today called on the American people to share with the Filipinos "the boundless faith that we have in our people and in our country." General Romulo said the Philippines was re-fashioning its foreign policy today because "it views its national interests in a new light and because international developments have made it inevitable that new angles and perspectives be examined to promote those national interests."

The 77-year-old Philippine foreign secretary spoke at a luncheon before the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines on the subject of Philippine-American relations. He said the United States which has taken a leading role in re-shaping international relations should be the first to understand the motivations which led this former U.S. colony to re-examine its foreign policy.

This country's foreign policy "is based on addition not subtraction," General Romulo stressed, adding, "we have widened the web of our relationship but never at the expense of old friends." He noted that in the list of foreign policy objectives enunciated by President Ferdinand Marcos 3 years ago, "the strengthening of relations with the United States occupied a prominent position."

Secretary Romulo said the re-examination was necessary for at least three reasons, at least two of them involving relationships between the two long-time allies. The first was the Nixon doctrine and the Ford doctrine, which "with their enormous ambiguities, rightly or wrongly cast grave doubt on the nature of the security alliance" between the two countries.

The second was the termination of the Laurel-Langley trade agreement, "occurring as it did with the sudden energy crisis and the sharp drop in the demand for Philippine commodities," said General Romulo.

The third, which in many ways was the consequence of the foregoing, "is the changed configuration of power in our part of the world," he added.

The foreign secretary said that in his view no fundamental change in Philippine-American relations had occurred, but noted, "there are, as there are bound to be, certain shifts in nuances," of which among the most important to the Philippines was the completion of the process of independence.

He said Philippine-American relations were "in a stage of transition" and stressed the fact that both peoples needed one another and that together they could overcome the problems of transition in their relationships.

THAI PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK ARRIVES ON WORKING VISIT

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[Text] Manila, 20 Feb (AFP)--Thai Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chamanan arrived here today from Indonesia for a 4-day state visit to the Philippines to be highlighted by talks on regional security and other matters with President Ferdinand Marcos. Thousands of cheering, flag-waving Filipino schoolchildren gave the Thai leader and his 24-member party a colorful, screaming welcome as the motorcade bearing them to the Malacanang Presidential Palace drove the 12-km (7-mile) route along scenic Manila Bay.

Official sources said that besides security matters, Mr Marcos and Gen Kriangsak were expected to discuss relations with the Indochinese states as well as with People's China, which the prime minister will visit in March. Also high on the agenda are bilateral trade exchanges and economic cooperation within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), a 10-year-old political-economic grouping among Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

Dressed in a dark suit, Gen Kriangsak, accompanied by his wife, flew in from Bali, Indonesia at 2 pm aboard a special Thai International Jet on the second leg of his ASEAN tour. President Marcos and his beautiful wife, metropolitan Manila Governor Mrs Imelda Marcos, led a throng of government officials and foreign diplomats who welcomed the Thai party at Manila airport.

As the jet bearing the prime minister taxied on the airport runway, hundreds of school-children dressed in colorful costumes representing various Southeast Asian ethnic groups broke into a flower dance. Gen Kriangsak received full military honors and reviewed the honor guard before he and the president boarded the presidential limousine for the palace. There were no airport speeches.

The motorcade stopped briefly at Rizal Park where Gen Kriangsak laid a wreath at the foot of the monument to Filipino national hero Dr Jose Rizal. The route to the palace was lined by thousands of school children clad in their multicolored school uniforms who screamed greetings of welcome and waived miniature flags at the passing dignitaries, under a boiling summer sun.

Formal talks between Gen Kriangsak and Mr Marcos will begin tomorrow when Mr Marcos takes his guests on a cruise aboard the presidential yacht in Manila Bay to nearby Corregidor Island, a historic World War II battleground. Philippine Foreign Undersecretary Jose D. Ingles said on government television Gen Kriangsak would probably brief Mr Marcos on Thailand's efforts to strengthen relations with the Indochinese states, particularly Cambodia with which Thailand has had border problems. Mr Ingles viewed Gen Kriangsak's forthcoming visit to China as an effort to establish "a rapport and understanding" with the Chinese leaders. Bilateral relations as well as ASEAN relations with China are expected to crop up in the Marcos-Kriangsak talks, official sources indicated.

Philippine Ambassador to Thailand Gen Manuel Yan said the prime minister had indicated to him that before going to China, he would like to visit the ASEAN capitals first to show ASEAN "has a top priority in Thailand's foreign policy."

Thai Ambassador in Manila Chao Saichua said in an interview that the composition of the prime minister's party indicated security and economic matters would be discussed in Gen Kriangsak's talks here. Gen Kriangsak "looks forward to exchanging views with President Marcos on matters of mutual interest and concern for the benefit of the whole region," the ambassador added.

The Thai party includes Foreign Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun and the ministers of communications, industry, agriculture and commerce as well as Gen Yose Devahasdin, deputy commander-in-chief of the Royal Thai Army.

Mr Marcos will honor the visitors with a state dinner at the palace tonight. Two rounds of formal talks are scheduled between the two leaders on the yacht "The President" tomorrow. Before returning to Manila, Gen Kriangsak will hold a press conference aboard the boat.

On Wednesday, Mr Marcos will take his guest to the Philippine military academy in the northern Philippine mountain city of Baguio, where they will stay overnight at the Mansion House, the presidential summer residence. They are scheduled to return to Manila Thursday morning and Gen Kriangsak will leave at noon for Kuala Lumpur, third leg of his tour.

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